THE HINDOO PATRIOT

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ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BOMBAY BRANCH

Summary of News.

Monday, 16th March.

THE Division of Africa. The following extract is taken from M. de Laveleye's article in the *Forum* for January:—"African affairs have recently been settled by a series of strange events hitherto unexampled in the domain of international law and diplomacy. First, we have seen the spontaneous generation of a state five times the size of France; secondly, the founding in the very heart of Africa of a neutral zone, stretching from shore to shore of the Dark Continent, where the humane principles of philanthropy, from which Europe is farther and farther receding, are successfully practised; thirdly, mutual grants of immense expanses of territory made to one another by several European States under the novel name of "spheres of influence," over which the contracting parties had no right whatever, and on which, in fact, no European had ever set foot, as Lord Salisbury himself, the principal author of this remarkable arrangement, ironically remarked. We have witnessed an ingenious and economical application of the maxim "*Do ut des*"—one giving another what is not his to bestow—as was the case in the recent Anglo-German treaty, when Berlin and London allotted themselves shares, not only of the region near the great lakes, but even of some possessions of the Sultan of Zanzibar, who was most courteously deprived of his sovereignty over them." M. de Laveleye ought to remember that these "spheres" may, in no distant day, be the means of teaching the black natives, how to replace their *barbarous* institutions regardiug marriage and other matters by their civilised prototypes.

THE *Madras Standard* observes:—

"Coming events cast their shadows before." Sir John Gorst is reported to have said in the House of Commons, that the Government having introduced the Age of Consent Bill after mature deliberation is not prepared to withdraw it. The report of the Select Committee appointed by the Government of India is also said to be nearly unanimous that the Bill be passed into law, save Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter. Irresponsible editors of Newspapers, both old and of yesterday's origin, in favour of the bill, fall foul of the Government for its tardiness, and its incorrigible stupidity in lending its ear to the wild lamentations of the opposition. The proposed measure is intended for the good and happiness of the people as a whole; still they need not all be consulted. It is the Englishman who is the better judge of what a Hindu's domestic felicity is or is to be! We have been reduced by the irony of fate to such a humiliating position that we—Hindus—Aryans—are now learning our holy religion, our sacred Vedas, our venerable philosophy, from the foreign whiteman. Why do we not consistently learn, from the same source, something about our—matrimony or our conjugal happiness? Let us obey implicitly and seek permission *when* we should marry, and *whether* we should marry at all.

Our contemporary should know that all our ideas in respect to domestic felicity must be re-examined by the light of European civilization.

LORD HARRIS, speaking at the Alexandra Native Girls' Institute, on the occasion of the last prize-giving, said:—

"I hail with satisfaction the fact, that in this country efforts are being made in every direction to induce ladies to take advantage of the opportunities of education that are given them, and to encourage them to do so. Of course there are opponents of that view in this country, and far be it from me to say that I decry their views. I am a great admirer of custom. I believe it to be a very valuable thing, and it is not one to be despised or lightly cast aside; and the object of the paramount power is not to force upon you its ideas of the position that women ought to assume in their home in this country, but rather to seek to encourage the country to recognise the influential position that women have attained in an Englishman's home, and to lead them to adopt the same views, if such a thing is possible. It is obviously impossible to carry it out without women to teach women, and that is what institutions such as this can do. Besides the encouragement which they give to the world, who see that their efforts are successful, and that they carry out what they profess, they in their turn teach other women, who, having been taught, are able to go into the world and distribute the knowledge they have acquired. Therefore, I say, that besides those who are assembled here to-day, there must be thousands in this country, who watch with interest and join us in congratulating the institution on its success." (Cheers.)

Tuesday, 17th March.

Lord Harris says, he is 'great admirer of custom.' His Lordship will perhaps have to qualify his admiration, when he reads the speeches of the Hon'ble members on the Consent Bill.

A VISITOR to Samarkand says:—"I came across an old Hindu, who had been here, as he told me, for forty years. He said, in former days there used to be numbers of Hindus here, but that the Russians had driven them all out except himself, his brother, and their servant. It appears that most of the Hindus formerly living here were money-lenders at very high rates of interest, and that the Russians, finding that they had a demoralising effect upon the inhabitants of the country, without further discussion, cancelled all the debts that these latter had contracted, and expelled the Hindus from the place. The old man groaned and sighed dreadfully over his losses, and said, the Russians were not like the English: such *zoolum* would never have been allowed in India." If money-lending is considered immoral in the Russian Code of *morality*, what right have the Hindus to 'groan and sigh? Is it not the duty of the paramount power to give lessons in morality to its subjects, and to enforce its ordinances on the subject by severe sanctions? Witness the Consent Bill of the British Indian Legislature.

IT having been decided that the seventh National Congress shall take place at Nagpur, in the Central Provinces, a large local committee has been formed. Arrangements will be made for the accommodation of twenty-four thousand persons, of whom, from three to four thousand will be from more or less distant parts of India, and the rest from the Central Provinces. The number of delegates will not be restricted to one thousand or any particular number. The opening of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway will facilitate the coming and going of delegates from Bengal. The meeting as usual will be held at Christmas.

IN the last number of the *North American Review*, 'Ouida' makes a savage attack on Christianity. She says: "Christianity is a formula, it is nothing more. It has become a shibboleth, a husk, a robe with no heart beating within it, a winged angel covered in dead wood. The nations in which daily services are said in its honour in thousands and tens of thousands of Cathedrals and Churches, sell opium to the Chinese, cheat and slay Red Indians, slaughter with every brutality the peaceful natives of Tonquin and Annam, carry fire and sword into Central Asia, kill Africans like ants, and keep a whole populace in the grip of military service from the Spree to the Elbe, from the Seine to the Neva. A savage insistence on having an eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth, is the foundation of all the modern law. 'Ouida' recalls all the bitter hatreds and persecutions Christianity has engendered, the Romish denial of human love by enforced celebacy, and its degradation in the marriage service to the lowest use, the pride and luxury of Church dignitaries etc. etc., and charges it, under the mask of humility with teaching man to regard himself as the most important of all created things, while the keynote of its motive force is a bribe, the low desire to attain eternal felicity." 'Ouida' is mad, and ought to be sent to an Asylum.

IN the House of Commons, Sir James Fergusson, replying to a question, said that Government had assented to the occupation of Tokar on the positive assurance that no further advance into the Soudan was intended. Sir James added that the report current, that the occupation of Tokar was part of a scheme for the re-conquest of the Soudan, was without foundation.

IN addition to the leprosy investigations which Surgeon-Major A. Barclay and Mr. A. Kanthack have conducted in various parts of the Punjab, the other members of the Leprosy Commission, Mr. B. N. Rake, and Mr. G. A. Buckmaster, accompanied by Surgeon-Major S. J. Thomson, visited Delhi a few days ago, and examined a number of lepers who had been collected there for the purpose. Delhi itself, like Lahore, practically enjoys immunity in this respect. It is rather remarkable that, since the 5th December last, the Government of India have taken no steps to notify the movements of the Leprosy Commissioners. In the notification issued on that date, it was stated that the detailed movements of the Commission, after leaving Calcutta about the 25th January, would be notified hereafter. For some unexplained reason this step has been omitted.

Wednesday, 18th March.

PROFESSOR Max Muller, in the Preface to his second edition of the Rig-Veda, observes:—

"Overwhelmed as I was with other and to me far more attractive work, I felt no desire whatever to undertake a new edition of these enormous volumes. But when I was told again and again by my Indian friends that scarcity of copies seriously interfered in many parts of India with the newly re-awakened study of the Veda, I felt that I ought not to shrink from a work to which they evidently thought that I was in honor pledged. I, therefore, expressed to the Secretary of State for India my readiness to undertake a revised edition, giving my time and labour gratuitously, provided that the expense of printing were undertaken by the Indian Government. I did not imagine that in making such an offer I could be supposed to be asking for a favor. Grateful as I have always felt for the enlightened liberality of the Court of the Directors of the late East India Company, I may be permitted to point out that they and their successors have received a very fair return for the outlay on the first edition, in the shape of 500 copies, representing a value of £7,500, which were either distributed by them as valued presents, or actually sold in the market. The Members of the India Council, however, took a different view from that taken by their predecessors, the Directors of the Old East India Company. While the Directors on the advice of the greatest Sanskrit scholar of the time, Professor H. H. Wilson, their illustrious Librarian, declared that 'the publication of so important and interesting a work as the *editio princeps* of the Rig-Veda was in a peculiar manner deserving of the patronage of the East India Company, connected as it is with the early religion, history, and language of the great body of their Indian subjects.' the Literary Committee of the India Council, acting on somewhat different advice, declined my offer of publishing a new edition of the Rig-Veda, though a strong desire for it had been expressed by scholars both in India and Europe, and though my gratuitous services were placed at their disposal.

No one felt more relieved by this decision than myself, but others took a different view, and in India particularly the motives, real or imaginary, of this refusal were canvassed very freely. Being asked by several of my Indian correspondents whether I would allow my edition to be reprinted in India, I replied that I should gladly give my permission to a duly qualified native scholar, but that it would be a pity to simply reprint it, without incorporating the numerous corrections and additions which I had made in the course of the last thirty years, partly by availing myself of the criticisms of European and native scholars, and partly by a collection of new and important readings which were not accessible to me when I published the original edition.

THE Professor thus speaks of the generous offer of the Maharaja of Vizinagram to defray the whole expense of the second edition:—

After several more or less feasible plans had been suggested, I received a letter from His Highness the Maharajah of Vijayanagara, offering to defray the whole expense of a new edition, if I were still willing to undertake the labour of revising the text. 'Your study of the literature of India and its people,' the Maharajah wrote, 'has decidedly established a great claim on all Hindus to help you to the best of their abilities in any undertaking, much more in one of such literary and religious importance to ourselves.'

After this generous offer from one of the most enlightened and distinguished Princes of India—the Maharaja was a member of the Legislative Council of the Governor of Madras during the Governorship of Sir Mountstuart. E. Grant Duff, and is now a member of the Viceregal Council—I could hesitate no longer. I gave up some other work which I had contemplated and was fortunate enough to secure the assistance of an excellent young Sanskrit Scholar, Dr. Winternitz, a pupil of Professor Buhler of Vienna. After the necessary preparations had been completed, we began our work in the spring of 1888.

THE dedication of this edition runs thus:—

"To Her Most Excellent Majesty Victoria, Queen of Great Britain and Ireland, and Empress of India, this earliest record of the Religious Institutions of the Natives of India is by Gracious permission dedicated by Her Majesty's Faithful subjects and devoted servants, Pasupati Ananda Gajapati Raz and Frederick Max Muller."

THE operations in the Lushai country, rendered necessary by the attack upon Mr, Murray's party, have come to a close. Throughout its course it had everywhere been well received, the local Chiefs willingly funishing transport coolies and supplies. The whole of the northern district is now perfectly quiet, and it is unlikely that there will be any further trouble in that direction.

Thursday, 19th March.

SIRDAR DILER JUNG, *alias* Sirdar Diler-ul-Mulk, C.I.E., *alias* Syed Abdool Huq Kurmalkar, once of Hyderabad, and now residing at Apollo Bunder in Bombay, had employed in February, 1890, Captain Charles Norman as his private secretary, whom he entrusted with all the papers and documents, the opinions of counsel, and confidential communications relating to the disputes with the Government of his Highness the Nizam, in respect of which a suit for sixty lakhs of rupees has been filed against him in the Bombay High Court. Captain Norman left Bombay in September, 1890, and from Suez wrote to the Sirdar demanding £2,500 for purchasing his silence, and threatening, in case of non-payment, to disclose all his secrets connected with the case to the Nizam's solicitors.

In one of the letters, the Sirdar was informed that, if within twenty-four hours of his receiving it, he did not pay Messrs. William Watson and Co. the sum of £2,500, they were to forward to Messrs. Roughton and Byrne, the Nizam's solicitors in Bombay, a packet which he had addressed to their care. The Sirdar thereupon filed a suit in the High Court against Captain Norman, Messrs. Watson and Co.,and Messrs. Roughton and Byrne, and obtained an *interim* injunction restraining the parties above named from dealing with the sealed packet in any way whatever. On receipt of notice of the *interim* injunction, Messrs. Watson, and Co. made over the packet to the Prothonotary of the High Court, with whom it has remained unopened ever since. The suit brought by the Sirdar was heard on Friday andSaturday before last before the Hon. Mr. Justice Farran. Captain Norman was not represented at the hearing, and Messrs. Watson and Co. were, at an initial stage, under an arrangement come to with the plaintiff, dismissed from the suit, each party paying his own costs. The real contest then lay between the Sirdar and Messr. Roughton and Byrne. The result of the trial has been to clear the Nizam's solicitors of the allegations made by the Sirdar against them, which the learned judge declared to be wholly unfounded and unjustifiable, while he ruled that certain letters which Captain Norman had voluntarily addressed to Mr. Roughton, and which the latter thought it to be his duty to communicate to the Nizam's Government, were privileged, and that Mr. Roughton could not be compelled to produce them in Court. The Sirdar's counsel objected to the learned judge opening and looking at the contents of the sealed packet, which was to remain sealed unless, as the judge remarked, the plaintiff elected to obtain possession of it on payment of the £2,500 to the Prothonotary. The Court gave a decree for the plaintiff against Captain Norman with costs : but ordered him to pay the costs of Messrs. Roughton and Byrne.

IT is notified that the postage between Aden and India is reduced to the inland postage rates in force for the time being in British India. The postage between India and the Colonies and all countries comprised in the universal postal union, is reduced to 2½ annas from April 1st. Further, postage to and from Ceylon to Turkey in Asia, and the French and Portuguese possessions in India, is reduced to the inland Indian rates. Two annas per half ounce will be charged on letters to and from Persia.

THE general results of the Census of Bengal have now been sufficiently ascertained to permit of an estimate of the total population being made. There is no doubt but that there has been an increase during the past ten years of about four-and a half millions, raising the population of the Lower Provinces to 74,000,000 people. The increase is most marked in the neighbourhood of Calcutta, in the ten districts, and in Eastern Bengal. Taking the province as a whole, there is an increase of 6½ per cent. Probably the most noticeable feature is the great growth of the town of Howrah, exclusive of Bali, from a population of 90,813 in 1881 to one of 113,294, or an increase of 245 per cent. The small increase in the Behar districts south of the Ganges, is also a matter that will attract attention, and is probably due to increased emigration.

WE hear that Mr. Quinton, Chief Commissioner of Assam, proceeds to Manipore shortly to inquire into and settle matters, connected with the Maharaja's abdication last September. It will be remembered that the *Senapati*, or Commander-in-Chief, attacked the palace that month, and the Maharaja fled. He afterwards signed a paper saying he would not fight the rebels, but would go on a pilgrimage to Brindabun. He is now living in Calcutta, and claims to be reinstated, averring that the story of the pilgrimage was only a ruse to enable him to escape from the State. Let us hope that Mr. Quinton will succeed in clearing the mist that now surrounds the case, and thus enabling the Government to do justice to the aggrieved party.

IT is stated by a Paris paper that the Emperor of Germany has decided to bring Prince Bismarck, not before the Supreme Tribunal of Justice, but before a Court Martial, to which Prince Bismarck, holding a rank in the army, is amenable. He will be summoned on his honour to say whether he is author of certain articles attacking the Government.

Friday, 20th March.

THE Rev. Dr. Miller's warning regarding the dangers ahead in connection with female education in India, has made a great impression in Madras. The *Hindu* in a leading article says, by raising timely protest against a possible serious danger, this veteran educationist has placed the cause of female education under an obligation. The educational system in vogue for boys has not produced a revolution in their character, nor produced any very striking moral results. On the other hand, the high pressure that cramming places on the intellectual and physical strength of youths has led to undesirable consequences. "We do not want Hindu women to be made mere book-worms, literary pedants : we want them to become instruments whereby men's manners and morality may be refined and elevated. If any system of education cannot assuredly produce this result, wise men should hesitate before recommending it."

AT a recent meeting of the special committee of the Glasgow Chamber of Commerce on Indian currency, at which Mr. David Bannerman presided, Mr. Drew called attention to a means of giving that currency a more stable value, by which those disadvantages might be reduced or removed. The means he referred to were the introduction of a gold standard, with free coinage—the same as obtains in England and at the great self-governing colonies,—accompanied by the silver currency now in use in India, but the latter so regulated in supply that the silver coin would be maintained at an approximately constant relation to the gold standard. To effect this, the coinage of silver would necessarily be confined to the hands of the Government, but to obviate any fear of an unduly restricted currency the coinage of gold as legal tender must at the same time be made free to all-comers as it is in this country. Assuming the sovereign as the gold coin and the rupee as the silver one, the question arose how many rupees were to be equal to the sovereign. This might be left open for further consideration, but as a suggestion or example he would say 12 Rs.; that was making the rupee equal to 20*d.*, which was the rate it had stood at for some time during the past year. To sum up, his proposal was that the Chamber memorialise the Government to adopt a gold currency for India, with silver as a subsidiary currency ; the gold coinage free, and the silver currency so regulated, by taking it entirely into the hands of the Government, that its increase will be provided for to such an extent as to maintain the value of the rupee approximately at 20*d.*, or twelve to the sovereign. This, he said, avoided any depreciation of the present silver currency, and also provided for its gradual increase, and benefited the people by an improvement in the purchasing power of their money. He repeated that the proposal he had made was neither new nor original so far as he was concerned. Sir James Bain having seconded the proposal, a discussion followed in which there was a conflict of opinion as to the utility of Mr. Drew's views. Mr. Balloch suggested that the motion should in the meantime be withdrawn, which, with consent of his seconder, Sir James Bain, Mr. Drew agreed to.

A RETURN of the loan debts of the Government of India for the half year ending September 30, 1890 is published as a Parliamentary paper. During the six months the small sum of Rx. 3,097 was paid off, new debt was incurred to the extent of Rx. 63 and "moneys raised during the half year" figure at the ridiculously small sum of Rx. 3. These nominal transactions altogether reduced the outstanding debt of Rx. 102,761,815 to Rx. 102,758,781. In other words, no change worth mention took place in the total amount of debt. Transfers, however, were arranged by which less interest will have to be paid in future than in previous years. The transfers for instance of 4½ to 4 per cent loans represent rather more than Rx. 3,370,000, which means a saving in interest annually of about Rx. 16,000. Although these financial transactions are not of a magnitude to arouse enthusiasm, they are on the right side of the account: as indeed, with the improving credit and expanding revenue of India they ought to be.

UNDER the instructions of the Secretary of State, the Government of India has ruled that the Municipalities in the Empire should take upon themselves, as far as possible, the responsibility of reducing mortality from snake bite. The Governor-General in Council is of opinion that the most effective way of reducing the number of deaths from snake-bite is to destroy the covers afforded for snakes in or near villages. The reward system that has hitherto prevailed has proved sadly ineffective, inasmuch as no marked diminution has been observed in mortality from snake-bite, although large sums of money have been expended, year after year, on rewarding snake-killers.

LORD SALISBURY has proposed that the arbitrators in the Newfoundland fisheries question shall meet at Brussels.

Saturday, 21st March.

BY the defeat of the American Free Coinage Bill, the great silver speculation in New York has come to an end. Millions (says a New-York correspondent) were lost. Indeed last July, when it was thought that the Bill providing for the purchase by Government of 4,500,000 ounces of silver per month would pass, pools were made up to buy bullion in expectation of a great advance. The men in the pool expected the price to reach one dollar twenty-five cents as the law came into effect in August. The pools conducted their negotiations entirely in New York to facilitate operations. A sort of silver-clearing house was established. The Mercantile Safe Deposit Company received bullion on storage and issued certificates for it, which were recognized by the New York Stock Exchange as good deliveries, and instead of having to deliver silver when a sale was made, certificates to represent the amount of the transaction were transferred. The Government bought on regular days each week at the market price, but the store in the Safe Deposit vaults kept mounting up. As the accumulation grew, the price began to descend, and fell until it was below one dollar per ounce. Then agitation for free coinage was started, and the price of silver rose ; but when the opposition to free coinage increased, the price again fell below one dollar. There is now stored in New York 10,100,000 ounces at an average cost to the speculators of one dollar ten cents. per ounce. They are compelled to supply Government in order to prevent it from importing silver. Their first losses were 2,000,000 dols., and storage and interest made half a million more.

MR. Chamberlain is of opinion that the difficulties of the Irish party, and consequently of the Gladstonians, have robbed Home Rule of what slight chance of success it ever had. If Mr. Gladstone were to get a majority to-morrow he would find himself oppposed by Mr. Parnell as well as by the Unionists, and if he went the whole length which would satisfy Mr. Parnell, then he would have to face further secessions among his own followers. Either way he must be in a minority, and Mr, Chamberlain tells the Radical party that they will be disappointed of place and power just so long as they keep the millstone of Home Rule round their necks. Mr. Parnell himself seems to be abandoning his belief that Mr. Gladstone will attempt to carry any scheme of Home Rule, and on a recent occasion he declared that if the Gladstonians triumphed at the General Election, he should not be surprised to hear that they were in favour of the maintenance of the Coercion Act. There can be littte doubt that Mr. Parnell has the bulk of the Irish people on his side. At half-a dozen important places during the last few days he has been received with extraordinary demonstrations of welcome. Addresses have been read to him, assuring him that he is the most immaculate and the greatest Irish statesman of the century. He has forged a powerful weapon of offence in his charges against the M'Carthyites of accepting Saxon gold. As the stronger the two sides become, the wider is their dissension, and the Anti-Home Ruler can only hope that the appeal which is to be made to Australia and America for help will meet with some measure of success.

THE Examinations at the Dehra Doon Forest School, to be held this month, will be conducted for the first time under the supervision of the Board of Control, instead of, as heretofore, under the sole command of the Inspector-General of Forests. The Secretary of State has sanctioned the expansion and improvement of its educational staff, which will be strengthened by an agricultural chemist from Europe.

IT is said that a petition has been presented to the Viceroy from a large number of priests in Lhassa, besides several other influential Thibetans, protesting against the establishment of any trade mart on the frontier. It is said that the Chinese authorities at Lhassa have worked upon the fears of the Thibetans to such an extent that the latter are inclined to resist any attempt to force trade relations upon them. Acting under Chinese influence, the Lhassa authorities, it is reported, have appealed to Peking for protection againgst the invasion of the "foreign devils" which, they say, is invariably initiated under the pretext of trading.

THE following is the programme of Sir Charles Elliott's forthcoming tour :—

Leave Calcutta	March,	30th
Arrive Julpaiguri	„	31st
Halt	April,	1st & 2nd
Leave	„	3rd
Arrive Purneah	„	4th
Halt	„	5th and 6th
Leave Purneah	„	7th
Arrive Nya Dumka (*via* Rampur Hat) ..	„	8th
Halt Nya Dumka	„	9th and 10th
Arrive Suri	„	11th
Halt	„	12th
Arrive Calcutta	„	13th

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The Hindoo Patriot.

MONDAY, MARCH 23, 1891.

THE LAST ACT OF THE CONSENT BILL.

IF ever any one act of the British Government of India gave indications of temerity and weakness altogether unaccountable to the native community it was the passing of the Age of Consent Bill on Thursday last. The vast population of the country regarded the very introduction of the measure in Council with shame and indignation, they emphatically denied the existence of the evil which was sought to be remedied, they humbly but strongly protested against the proposed measure on the ground that it was an attempt to do violence to their religion, and they implored the Government to pause and enquire, if they had any reasonable doubt on the subject, whether the evil really existed and whether the measure would, as alleged, interfere with the religious rites and usages of the people. And yet wholly regardless of all protest, of the wide-spread outburst of feeling which the measure has evoked, and of all prayers for enquiry and delay the Bill has been passed. It was a strange spectacle to see the perpetrators of "brutality" courting and challenging an open enquiry, and the benevolent champions of the oppressed shrinking from the same. Government was pleased to take for gospel-truth statements made by Mr. Malabari and his friends, men who are beyond the pale of Hindu society and wholly ignorant of its institutions and usages, and to disregard the statements and views of not only of those who are the recognised exponents of public opinion and the leaders of society, but also of the body of learned Pandits whose opinions guide the religious rites and observances of the people.

The members of the Select Committee appointed to consider the Bill and the various representations regarding it, which had poured in from all quarters of the country, had not a word to say in their report upon the important objections which had been urged against the Bill. This reticence was as inexplicable as it was unusual. Government had done a large number of gentlemen the honor to ask for their opinions on the Bill, and meetings representing all sections of the community had unanimously adopted and submitted representations against the Bill ; but the gentlemen of the Select Committee did not think them entitled even to the ordinary courtesy of a passing notice in their report. People expected that this apparently careless treatment of the Bill and of the objections so influentially raised against it would be more than remedied by the consideration which would be given to it in Council. We were not prepared for the procedure which was actually adopted by the Council.

Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter was the only member who had opposed the introduction of the Bill in Council; he is the only member who represents the views and opinions of the people of these Provinces, and yet although the fact of his illness was known several days before the meeting of the Council, the consideration of the Bill was not put off even for a week, and he was thus prevented from making his protest against the passing of the Bill and having his last say upon it. It was a melancholy sight to see how everything had been pre-arranged and pre-determined. His Excellency the Viceroy called up the names of those only of the Hon'ble Members who were to speak at the meeting, and although Hon'ble member after Hon'ble member read long speeches the only impression the proceedings of the Council made upon us was that the Hon'ble gentlemen reposed safety in numbers and believed more in quantity than in quality.

All honour to Sir Charles Elliott for his having spoken out manfully about the state of public feeling although he himself approved of the principle of the Bill. But as regards the nature of the effort made by Hon'ble members to meet some of the objections raised against the Bill and justify the passing of the measure it was as weak and as unbecoming the dignity and traditions of the august assembly as it could possibly be. The religious objection to the Bill was held to be untenable on grounds which do not stand a moment's examination : opinions on the interpretation of the Sastras were pronounced by gentlemen who have not the shadow of a right to constitute themselves judges of the matter : precedents for legislative interference with religious and social usages were quoted in open defiance of fact, and the correct understanding of the enactments themselves and facts were distorted and misrepresented in order to make out a case of necessity for the measure and its acceptance by a large section of the community.

When the measure is opposed by a large majority of gentlemen of position and influence in the country and the unanimous voice of the middle and lower classes of the people, we expected that at least reasons bearing upon them the stamp of the instincts of true statesmanship and the fruits of patient investigation would be forthcoming before the Bill was passed. For once our legislators have not condescended to be clever and far-sighted. By their unwise and precipitate action they have simply succeeded in exasperating the feelings of the people and making them brood over their fate which has hurled them from a position of confidence and security to one of distrust and alarm.

Since the passing of the Bill we have heard native gentlemen exclaim with reference to the alleged educative effect of the measure that coming from a race of men who attained a height of civilization which is unappreciable and, for centuries to come, unattainable by Englishmen they decline to receive lessons on religion and morality at the feet of Englishmen. We should feel real alarm and uneasiness if such is the feeling of the mass of the population. But the mischief will, we hope, be yet arrested and that better counsel will prevail with the Secretary of State and his colleagues and the British Parliament when this unfortunate measure comes up to them for consideration.

The bantering tone of Sir Andrew Scoble's language in reference to the arguments used by Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter is unbecoming his position as a member of the Supreme Council. Such language even in the mouth of an advocate would be considered provoking, to say the least of it. But let that pass. It is due to Sir Romesh Chunder that Sir Andrew Scoble should explain why he taxed his colleague with want of 'candour', and why he said that he could not accept his colleague's testimony in regard to the existence of certain 'outrageous' practices so often referred to in connection with the present measure. Is such language at the back of his colleague worthy of an English gentleman? Had Romesh Chunder been present at the meeting he would doubtless have given his answer. But illness prevented him from attending the meeting. Taking advantage of his absence, the Hon'ble law member spoke of his colleague in a manner which cannot be too strongly deprecated. If the rules of Council permitted it, Sir Andrew Scoble should have been called to order by the President. At any rate, the Viceroy should have in his speech expressed his disapprobation of the law member's unparliamentary language. But he did nothing of the kind, and by his reticence aggravated the offence committed by Sir Andrew Scoble. Such insulting language would signify nothing to Sir Romesh Chunder, who would treat it in the manner it deserves. He possesses the confidence and respect of his own countrymen. They know what value should be put upon the treatment which he has received at the hands of his colleagues. His countrymen are eternally indebted to him for the courageous stand he made in defence of their rights and usages, and this public expression of their gratitude will, we feel sure, be more gratifying to him than empty encomiums from the mouths of his colleagues.

With reference to the charge of want of 'candour,' we would invite the attention of the reader to the following extract from the Royal Proclamation of 1858:

"Firmly relying ourselves on the truth of Christianity and acknowledging with gratitude the solace of Religion, we disclaim alike the right and the desire to impose our convictions on any of our subjects. We declare it to be our Royal will and pleasure that none be in any wise favored, none molested or disquieted, by reason of their religious faith or observances; but that all shall alike enjoy the equal and impartial protection of the law : and we do strictly charge and enjoin in all those who may be in authority under us, that they abstain from all interference with the religious belief or worship of any of our subjects, on pain of our highest displeasure.

"And it is our further will that, so far as may be, our subjects, of whatever race or creed, be freely and impartially admitted to offices in our service, the duties of which they may be qualified, by their education, ability and integrity duly to discharge.

"We know, and respect, the feelings of attachment with which the natives of India regard the lands inherited by them from their Ancestors ; and we desire to protect them in all rights connected therewith, subject to the equitable demands of the State : *and we will that generally, in framing and administering the law, due regard be paid to the ancient rights, usages and customs of India.*"

It was in reference to the omission of the words italicised by us that the charge was made. Now we would ask a dispassionate reader whether these words have reference to the protection of religious rights mentioned in the first paragragh quoted above, or to rights connected with land mentioned in the third paragraph? Are we not justified in asking now where lies the want of candour? Is it in Sir Romesh Chunder, or in Sir Andrew Scoble?

Speaking of want of candour, how is it Sir Andrew Scoble said nothing about the Keora case, so pointedly referred to in Mr. Monmohun Ghose's Note on the Bill? Was it not maintained in this case that the existing law is sufficient to meet all cases of injury? It did not perhaps suit the Hon'ble Law member to make any reference to it, when it was his object to show that there was absolute necessity for such legislation. By the way, is it a fact that the Allahabad High Court also is of opinion that the existing law is sufficient to punish all inhuman cases of sexual offence? Why was there no reference to this opinion in Sir Andrew Scoble's speech? Did not candour require him to discuss these opinions? The question is legitimate, and ought to be answered.

All honor to Sir Charles Elliott for the tribute he paid to those who differed from Government. His is the only statesman-like speech in Council on Thursday last. "Before concluding," he said, "I wish to say a few words by way of tribute to the general good sense and moderation of the opinions which those noblemen and gentlemen of Bengal whom the Bengal Government consulted have contributed. * * * What struck me most was the strong sense of responsibility with which the subject was discussed, and the evident desire to recognise the good intentions of Government and to assist it as far as possible in attaining its object. It is a very hopeful sign when the recognised leaders of society are possessed by such a feeling as to their relations to the Government, and I am sanguine that when the dust of this controversy has cleared away, no bitterness will be left behind, and it will be admitted that this amendment of the law was, on the whole, sound and judicious."

We are sorry we cannot speak of the Viceroy's speech with that respect which his position ought to command. His speech was remarkable for its absence of judicial tone. It was for him to disarm opposition, and to restore harmony. He has signally failed in convincing and conciliating those who conscientiously believe that the present measure would vitally affect the well-being of Hindu Society. He spoke of "reservations" in reference to the Royal Proclamation. His Excellency observed

The first of these reservations is this, that in all cases where demands preferred in the name of religion would lead to practices inconsistent with individual safety and the public peace, and condemned by every system of law and morality in the world, it is religion, and not morality: which must give way. It has already been pointed out that this reservation has been invariably insisted upon, and examples have been adduced in which, from time to time, the Government of India has intervened in order to prohibit certain acts, which unquestionably had the sanction of religion, upon the ground that those acts were opposed to the general interests of society. The precedents afforded by our legislation against infanticide, against the im-

molation of widows, and against the immunities enjoyed by Brahmins, have been appropriately cited in illustration of this argument.

We have repeatedly pointed out that the examples referred to by the Viceroy would not in any way help Government in seeking for precedents for coercive legislation, and we will not go over the ground again. Suffice it to say that those who have advised Government with reference to the interpretation of the Proclamation have grievously erred, and have misled the Viceroy. It behoves our countrymen now to implore Her Majesty to be graciously pleased to interpret her own words. The consequence of misinterpretation is serious, and we do not know where the mischief will end.

"HUMANITY *versus* BRUTALITY."

IN passing the Age of Consent Bill Government has turned a deaf ear to the earnest prayer of the people for substituting the age of puberty for the hard-and-fast line drawn at twelve years. Had the prayer been granted, it would have afforded the maximum amount of protection to Indian girls without in the least hurting the religious susceptibilities of vast masses of Her Majesty's Hindu subjects in all parts of the Empire. Let us forget for argument's sake all that we have hitherto urged regarding State interference with our religious and social institutions. Let us consider the question from the Government point of view. Does the arbitrary age-limit afford the protection, which it is the ostensible object of the Bill to give?

Sir Andrew Scoble's justification of the rejection of the only rational and politic course which could have been adopted under the circumstances is to be found in the following extract from his speech :

"No doubt the adoption of the age-limit of twelve years will not cover all the cases which it will be desirable to protect, but it will go a long way in that direction. If the satistics quoted by my Hon'ble friend (Sir Romesh Chunder) from Surgeon Major Gupta's report are correct, it will cover 39 per cent of the girls of India, and that is a great step in advance."

Now, if Sir Andrew Scoble had the "candour," with the absence of which he so unjustly taunts Sir Romesh Chunder Mitter, he could not have failed to take note of the following positive evidence quoted from time to time in the Press from European scientists of eminence, who had studied the question of puberty in India from a purely scientific point of view, without any thought of how their opinion might affect existing social usages. As we we have already said :

"Joulin found that in tropical climates out of 1635 cases the largest number menstruated beween the twelfth and thirteenth years. Harris states that among Hindus 1 to 2 p. c. menstruate as early as nine years of age, 3 to 4 p. c. at ten, 8 p. c. at eleven, 25 p. c. at twelve"—Playtair's Midwifery, p p. 69-70.

Add to this the following testimony given by the Hindu anatomist, Madhusudan Gupta, in Dr. Allan Webb's "Pathologia Indica," as the result of independent researches and observations made at a time when there was no talk about the Age of Consent Bill to cloud people's reason and judgment :—

Females of this country (Bengal) arrive at the age of puberty after the twelfth, or at the beginning of the thirteenth year.

Dr. Allan Webb endorses Pandit Madhusudan Gupta's views on the strength of the analysis of 127 cases. (*Vide* "Pathologia Indica). We must not omit to mention here the opinion expressed in "Susruta," the great Hindu work on Medicine. He maintains that Indian girls menstruate after the completion of the twelfth year. Here is the authoritative opinion that a very large number of Indian girls menstruate a year, perhaps a little less than a year, later than the statutory age of consent, which has been fixed at twelve. The estimate formed of the strength of this majority by Harris is 65 to 67 per cent, while Surgeon-Major Nicholson puts the figure down at 72 per cent.

It appears, now, that the results of independent researches carried on by European experts in India and Europe, tally with those obtained by competent Indian observers both in the remote and the near past. These results point to the fact that from 65 to 72 per cent. of Indian girls menstruate for the first time in their thirteenth year, while only 28 to 37 per. cent do so in their twelfth year. It stands to reason, therefore, that by fixing upon the age of twelve as the statutory age of consent the Legislature will take away about a year's protection from by far the vast majority of Indian girls. To offer a year's protection to 28 per cent of girls who need no protection, having already attained the age of puberty, or, in other words, of sexual maturity, our Government will have to take away about a year's protection from 72 per cent girls, who do really require such protection, being sexually more immature, though older in years than their favoured sisters who composed the 28 per cent.

It has been urged, however, that it is precisely the aim of Government to protect those girls from sexual intercourse, who have attained puberty at the age of eleven or twelve. "Puberty cannot be estimated by age alone," says the celebrated Dr. Madden of Dublin. Yet, that is precisely what our enlightened Government is going to do, in the teeth of the out-spoken evidence of impartial scientific experts whom we shall quote below. If we can prove by quoting these opinions that a girl is sexually mature on the day the first menstruation appears, then we will have abundantly established that the course that Government have followed by making a hard-and-fast twelve year's limit, is a thoroughly unnatural one. We now proceed to cite these authorities :—

I. "Puberty, however, cannot be estimated by age alone." T. W. More of Dublin (Quain's Dictionary of Medicine."

II. "Though in the boy the breaking of the voice and the rapid growth of the beard are striking features, yet they are after all superficial. The boy does not become a man till some years after puberty. * * * With the occurrence of menstruation on the other hand, the girl *almost at once* becomes a woman and her functional womanhood ceases suddenly at the climactine in the fifth decenium." Foster's Text book of Physiology. 1883. p. 668-9.

III. "In the female on the contrary when puberty is reached, the individual passes *at a bound* as it were from childhood to womanhood, although the structural and functional changes involved in the transition are infinitely more complex than is the case in the other (the male)"—Thomas More Madden in Quain's Dictionary of Medicine, Part II, p. p. 1271-72.

IV. "According to the Bœrhave the first menstruation is accompanied with a certain amount of fever &c. * * * The previous symptoms disappear with the menses and she is restored to perfect health, but with an indescribable something in manner and appearance, *which marks the transition into womanhood.*"

It is clear from the above that a girl who has attained puberty has entered into, what may be termed, the sexual state. If then, Nature has fitted her for maternity, it is not the province of the legislator to keep her powers in abeyance for any period if she prefers to exercise them, no more is it in his power to take away a year of protection sooner than is due to her.

It will perhaps be contended that consummation of marriage with a girl of eleven, though sexually mature according to physiologists, is a very painful process, and may cause the death of the girl as in Hari Maiti's case. Granting that the process is a painful one, granting that there might be ugly occurrences in certain cases, is it not natural to suppose that such things are possible so long as human nature is human nature, and so long as human females are constructed anatomically and physiologically as they are now. The "inhumanity" complained of by the Puna and Ahmedabad ladies and sought to be remedied by Government is incapable of being removed by legislation. Our Government are seeking to achieve the inevitable; they are seeking to allay suffering, which must be undergone for a time in the usual course of things. Lawson Tait, speaking of his English experiences,—and they are vast,—says so in no uncertain voice. Be it remembered that Lawson Tait speaks of a nation whose laws disallow intercourse before the girl has attained her sixteenth year :—

"At a woman's first intercourse the hymen and nymphæ are both usually ruptured and if the male organ be of disproportionate size, the injury is something very severe. Every gynæcologist must have listened to the histories given by suffering women of the miseries they underwent during the first six or eight months of their married lives, miseries which are greatly due to the absurd social custom of the honeymoon. The rupture of the nymphæ does not always ocur, for the injury may be limited to the fossa naircularis; but I have seen it as a set of radiating fissures all over the vestibule. In these cases the hæmorrhage is sometimes alarming and as intercourse is repeated at very frequent intervals during the few months of married life the fissures are not allowed to heal, and they result in painful cracks which ultimately render intercourse so painful as to oblige the woman sometimes to refuse altogether to submit to it, and in nearly all cases she does not derive from it for many months that gratification which is one of its legitimate objects.* * * The injuries sometimes inflicted in the marriage-bed are very serious."—DISEASE OF WOMEN AND ABDOMIAL SURGERY. p. p. 50-51.

The "ghastly" disclosures here made prove conclusively that the "cruelty" complained of is by no means confined to India or to any particular nation. It is the lot of woman to suffer so, no matter at what age she is called upon to discharge her marital duties. The alleged horrors spoken of by "Mrs. Mansell and other lady doctors" have their counterpart in the midwifery books of every nation on the surface of the earth, and are not a special feature of life in India as our legislators and reformers would make us believe. If the Puna and Ahmedabad ladies had only known that no legislature can possibly give them immunity from the curse pronounced by Nature upon the mother of mankind, which has passed down to them as a heritage, they would never have rushed into print to ventilate their grievances in the way they have done.

Sir Andrew Scoble quotes a list of twenty-one cases of maternity attained between the ages of eleven and thirteen, five of which ended in natural delivery. The remaining sixteen cases are manipulated with characteristic "candour" to prove that "tedious delivery" "instrumental interference" and still births are the rule in India among women. In the first place Sir Andrew forgets that every one of the cases mentioned by Dr. Shome, or by any Hospital accoucheur is an exceptional case; for a Hindu woman, even among the abandoned classes, never goes into a hospital unless she be in extremities. In the next place these cases, as the merest tyro in midwifery knows, form a microscopic minority of the total number which take place, a minority which taking it at as high a figure as possible is inconsiderable in comparison with the number of safe and natural deliveries that take place, and of which European doctors and Hospital accoucheurs can never come to know anything by reason of their eminence, they being called in by the regular practitioners in case of complications only. Dr. Shome's cases, therefore, form a fraction of a minute fraction of the total number of such cases. Nor have the casualties among these cases, studying them impartially without the partial illuminations and half-explanations that have been given them conclusively traced to early maternity.

As Dr. Shome himself admits "most of these cases kept tolerably good health after their first confinement; two of them only suffered from fever &c.; but many of the others fell victims to various disorders after the second and third confinements." No attempt is made to enlighten the public as to whether these "second and third confinements" occurred before the mother had time to recover from the drain upon her system incidental on the first delivery, as is often the case; nor is any effort made if there were any of the many accidents of maternity, such as occur among all nations and in all ages, that would better account for the consequences complained of. It is obviously disingenuous to put down the effect of frequent conception to that of early conception or the result of accidents to any other cause.

As for "permanent injuries" to which Sir Andrew refers, we say our women are much better off than their civilized sisters of the West. Says Lawson Tait :—

(*i*) "It is abundantly proved that just as civilization (and I use the word in its most literal sense) advances, so does the increment of sexual trouble among women. The flexions and atrophies, dysmenorhæas and menorrhageas which affect town-bred women are comparatively unknown to their peasant sisters, and the healthy abundant procreative power of a country-laborer's wife is a frequent source of envy to the patrician dame."—LAWSON TAIT.

(*ii*) "From cradle to puberty they (women) seem to be on fairly equal terms with men, but from that moment, through the whole period of active life, their existence is one of prolonged suffering. The great function of their lives is led up to by troubles, and from it endless suffering

springs. This seem to be the lot of civilised women only, and to be the results of this civilisation—why we know not, we cannot even guess—LAWSON TAIT.

We say let charity begin at home. Spare our "barbarian" women "the lot of civilised women." They are well enough as they are.

INDIAN REFORM.

OUR readers are aware of Sir George Birdwood's opinion regarding our domestic life and social system as well as his views on the unwisdom of Government interference therewith. We have before us another expression of opinion of the same kind from England. It is from Dr. Congreve, the head of the English Church of Positivists. In a similar utterance, last year, Dr. Congreve said, speaking of our countrymen, that they are liable to constant disturbance from the Anglo-Indian community and from the action of Government which that community calls for and abets.

Indians are right I think, in resisting such action when it is directed against their traditional social regulations. Government of India should, as all Governments in fact should, keep to the task of maintaining material order, not interfere with arrangements and institutions which can only be wisely modified from within. I allude to such questions as infant-marriage and the regulations of widowhood. The insolent attempt of Englishmen to foist on the people they govern their own crude and often unwarrantable notions should be repelled.

In his thirteenth annual circular, dated January 15 of this year, Dr. Congreve observes:

If I return on any more general Indian question it is only to emphasize what I said in my last circular, as to the true attitude of the Indian Government whilst it remains in the hands of Englishmen. There is an increasing pressure brought to bear upon it in the opposite direction. With the usual English feeling of superiority, instead of mending ourselves we are but too anxious to intrude our crude actions on others as necessary reforms. This has been seen the last year, notably in relation to infant marriage. A certain evil is seen and there is at once a cry for a legislative reform, a coarse and unwise mode of proceeding. Respect for the civilization on which we have thrust ourselves, and patient waiting for its own change from within, where change is desirable—we cannot too consistently or energetically assert these principles. The quietest but most determined resistance to the premature enforcement of the revolutionary ideas of the West, to its interference on such questions, however specious the grounds for such interference, this is the course I should be glad to see adopted by Indians of all classes.

Resistance increases with increase of the force of impact. If the Hindu public have been unwise for the measure of their opposition, the Government must remain responsible for its noxious persistence and incapacity to understand the people it reigns over. If it is foolish to suspect that Religion is in danger, it was not overwise to be alarmed for British prestige and philanthropy.

We have already referred to Sir George Birdwood, who says that "if India—that is India of the Hindu—is to live at all in future as in the past, caste, which is the chief cornerstone of Hinduism, must be preserved." Unlike our countryman, Mr. R. C. Dutt, and other humbler advocates of sweeping reform in India, Sir George Birdwood has the warmest sympathy for the institution of caste as our "historical individuality," for the "ancient Brahmanical faith," and for the "ancient co-operative civilization" of this country as opposed to the "modern competitive civilization introduced from Europe."

Dr. Congreve is more for universalism, but by no means for the compulsory measures which some of our rising 'patriots' felt bound to support, *because* the opposition was so uncompromising. Dr. Congreve advising his co-religionists in India, says:

For Positivist action in India, whatever turn the conduct of the group may take for the present, under very difficult conditions, I think there are two directions in which it should assert itself, over and above the negative quiet resistance to unwise Western interference before alluded to. In both I believe I shall have the concurrence of those who hold the front place in the Indian movement. They are rightly bent on tracing the connecting links between the faith they have inherited and that which they have adopted, grooving the old into the new, so to smooth over the passage from the one to the other. The organisation of the Brahmanical Society, as well as the special institutions of the religious system on which it rests, seem to afford ample opportunities for the application of this method, for the preservation in short of continuity. The second object is the spreading as quickly and as widely as possible the central idea of the new faith, the conception of Humanity as an organic whole, of which all nations are integral portions, each with its own obligations, all bound to mutual support and protection, forming one brotherhood, wherein the idea of domination is wholly alien, the idea of fraternal co-operation paramount. The acceptance of Humanity as the ultimate controlling influence in all human relations is the one important primary step.

Touching the distinction made in different quarters between Act... of 1891 and interference with the Hindu marriageable age, we think the good sense of people would spare us all the sophistry involved in it. It is never pleasant to question the motives of men, or to scrutinise too closely sophistical reasoning. It may be pardonable in Englishmen,—whose ideas of betrothal, promise and consummation are all steeped in secularism and contractual relations—to make a distinction between the mature and immature age of the Hindu wife. We can also understand the obtuseness which occurs among any Hindustani, Mahrathi, or Trailangi people with their own customs regarding the *Gowna*, when they honestly fail to see the gravity of the threatened legislation. But when Brahmos and *quasi*-Brahmos of Bengal claim to interpret the Hindu law and desire to push on certain factitious circumstances against the bulk of the Hindus of Bengal, we think that even the *Vaidic* sage should be roused against such fratricidal behaviour. We do not care to accentuate what difference has unfortunately grown between ordinary Hindus and those Hindu reformers who choose to mark themselves off as Brahmos. Nor have we any thing to do with the Hinduism of our friend of the *Mirror*. The editor is an avowed follower of neo-Buddhism. But surely he would be the last man to claim to represent the Hinduism of Bengal as it stands to-day. He may, therefore see the importance of desisting from co-operation with sophistical efforts to connect reform of Hindu society with criminal legislation in the hands of a secular but all-powerful Government. The complaint is made against a practice which is either connected with Hindu Religion or it is not. Those who endorse the former opinion have every reason to oppose the interference of Government. Those who thought lightly of the so-called 'outrageous' practice could give it up in their own families without legislative help and molestation to the other section. Why the moral and physical well-being of one section of the Hindus should be the concern of those who do not share opinions of that section may be explained by people whose interest it is to divide and rule; but the conduct is inexplicable, and seems to us sophistical in people who would call themselves Hindus while deliberately desiring to destroy the just or unjust claims of Hinduism for its *sanatan i. e.* ever-lasting character. Morality may be safely pitted against Freedom by those who have nothing to lose in the latter blessing. But those who advocate Morality at the expense Freedom and overlook the obvious self-contradiction are above the reach of our reasoning powers.

THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

THE Financial Statement of the Government of India for the year 1891-92 has been published. The Budget Estimate of 1889-90, showed a surplus of Rx. 106,300. The Revised Estimate of the same year, issued in March last, showed a surplus of Rx. 1,809,700, after postponing for a year the special contribution of Rx. 490,000 from Local Governments and increasing the Famine Grant by Rx. 427,500. The final accounts of the year show a surplus of Rx. 2,612,000, being an increase over the Revised Estimate of Rx. 802,300. The improvement has proved to be greater than was expected owing to a general improvement in revenue, to larger land revenue collections in Madras, and to reduced expenditure which occurred mainly in England under Army and Special Defence works, but partly in India also.

The Revised Estimate of 1890-91, framed in the present month, anticipates a total revenue of Rx. 85,313,500 and a total expenditure of Rx. 82,526,400, leaving a surplus of Rx. 2,787,100, where a surplus of Rx. 270,400 only was originally budgeted for; and it is expected that, as the rule invariably is, the Final Account will show still better results. A considerable part of this surplus is due to the rise in the rate of exchange; a large part of the rest is owing to short expenditure under the head of Special Defences. The above result has been arrived at in spite of a fall in Opium revenue amounting to Rx. 328,300; and also of a fall in Railway traffic receipts amounting to Rx. 350,500. The fall in Railway receipt, seems to be counterbalanced by a considerable reduction in the Railway expenditure. If we add up the receipts of the last two financial years, 1889-90 and 1890-91, taking of course the Revised Estimate of the latter into account, and deduct from the grand total thus obtained, the grand total of the disbursements of the same two years, we get a surplus of Rx. 5,399,100, which shows the last two years to have been years of great financial success.

Coming down to the Budget Estimate for 1891-92, we find that the revenue is estimated at Rx. 86,025,300, and the expenditure at Rx. 5,909,700, yielding a surplus of Rx. 115,600. This result is evidently unfavourable and practically means that the large surplus of the current year is reduced to what is practically equilibrium between Revenue and Expenditure in the year 1891-92. It is thus accounted for: In the first place, (excluding the Railway revenue account) there is a reduction in Civil revenue of Rx. 692,600 in India and of £167,700 in England; these reductions are due (1) to the non-recurrence of certain special receipts of 1890-91; (2) to a further falling off in Opium revenue and in receipts under XXIV Exchange, and (3) to the cessation of the special contribution of Rx. 490,000 from Local Governments, which was received in the current year, and they are partially balanced in India by an increase of Rx 223,200 under land revenue and other receipts.

In the second place, there is a considerable increase in Civil Expenditure, which is due (1) to provision being made in connection with the Famine Grant for the full sum of Rx 1,500,000, (2) to the higher cost of Census operations, (3) to a better opium crop, and (4) to ordinary improvements in administration, balanced, in some degree, by reduction of the charge on account of ordinary Interest on Debt. Finally, there is a fall in the estimated rate of Exchange from 1*s.* 6·11*d.* to 1*s.* 5·25*d.*, representing an increase of expenditure of about Rx. 1,000,000.

Under the Railway Revenue Account, net receipts in India are expected to decrease by Rx. 113,100 as compared with the Revised Estimate of the current year. At the same time, it is expected that the net expenditure in England will decrease by £11,600 as compared with the revised estimate of the current year, and that there will be a revival in Railway traffic. Under such circumstances, the cause of the decrease in Railway receipts is assigned to the lower rate of Exchange.

For Special Defence Works, the precise amount of expenditure budgeted for is Rx. 847,000 as against an expenditure of Rx. 523,300 in the current year. The total contemplated expenditure on this head has been set at Rx. 5,000,000. The total expenditure to the end of 1891-92 is estimated at Rx. 3,768,830, leaving Rx.1,231,170 to be incurred in succeeding years.

We shall now compare some of the principal Budget items for the coming year, with the corresponding figures in the Revised Estimate for 1890-91 and the Final Account of 1889-90. Under the head of Land Revenue, we find the receipts for 1891-92 estimated at Rx. 24,399,300 as against Rx. 23,914,600, the Revised Estimate for 1890-91 and as against Rx. 23,981,399, the Final Account for 1889-90. The increase we mark in the Budget Estimate as compared with the Revised Estimate of the current year, is expected to arise from Burmah, the North Western Provinces, Oudh, Bombay and the Central Provinces. The Opium revenue has been showing a decided fall every succeeding year. The Budget estimate for 1891-92 is Rx. 7,593,400, as against Rx. 7,875,000, the Revised Estimate for the current year, and as against Rx.8,583,056 the Final Account for 1889-90. The revenue from salt is estimated at Rx. 8,343,500 in the Budget for 1891-92, as against Rx.8,453,200, the

Revised Estimate for 1890-91 and as against Rx.8,187,739, the Final Account for 1889-90. The reason why the receipt for 1891-92 is taken at a lower figure than the receipt for 1890-91 is that the latter included certain unusually early payments in Madras. The Revenue from Stamps is taken at Rx. 4,148,200 for 1891-92, as against Rx. 4,096,100 in the current year and as against Rx. 4,087,908 in 1889-90. The Revenue from Customs is estimated at Rx. 21,600 less than the Revised Estimate for the current year, but about Rx. 200,000 more than was realised in 1889-90. The expenditure under Famine Relief and Insurance is put down at Rx. 1,043,000, as against Rx. 600,000 in the current year, Rx. 975,000 of the amount being for the construction of Protective Railways, and Rx. 65,000 for Irrigation works. A net charge of Rx. 457,000 is to be met on account of the Bengal Nagpore and Indian Midland Railways. The net loss on Railway accounts is estimated at Rx. 1,501,700, as compared with Rx. 1,006,800 in the current year. The net expenditure on Irrigation is estimated at Rx. 722,550 as compared with Rx. 591,600 in the current year. Military expenditure, under the head of Army, is estimated at Rx. 21,051,200 as against Rx. 20,897,500 in the current year.

It is stated under the usual reserve that the Secretary of State proposes in 1891-92 to sell £16,000,000 of Council Bills and to raise a loan of £2,600,000 for discharge of 3½ per cent Debentures and advances to Railway Companies.

The Estimates of 1891-92 provide Rx. 3,500,000 for Capital Expenditure not charged to Revenue, and also the sum of Rx. 1,008,300 as loans for local purposes. But it is not expected that it will be necessary to raise any loan in India in 1891-92. This satisfactory result is due mainly to the large surpluses of 1889-90 and 1890-91, and to the provision in those years for reduction of Debt.

Future prospects, apart from questions connected with Exchange and Military Expenditure, are considered by Sir David Barbour, the Financial Secretary to the Government of India, to be decidedly encouraging.

Latest News and Notes.

THERE was a second meeting of the Legislative Council on Saturday last when the following Bills were passed :—The Obsolete Enactments Bill, the Indian Steam Vessels Bill, the Oudh Court Constitution Bill, and the Murshidabad Indenture Bill.

MR. O. T. Barrow has been appointed the Accountant-General, Bengal, and Mr. E. Lawrence has been appointed to officiate as Accountant-General, North-West Provinces and Oudh and Mr. G. H. R. Hart has been appointed Deputy Accountant-General, Bombay; Mr. C. R. C. Kiernander acts as Comptroller of India Treasuries, temporarily.

A CORRESPONDENT of the *Indian Daily News* congratulates it on the Age of Consent Bill being entirely due to him. The *News* considers that the pen that answered the opposition arguments in the Press was "very largely in competent hands and the Council need not have gone out of its way to take any notice of them. They might set up a "mutual adulation" society among themselves, now that the day of joy and glorification has come.

GOVERNMENT is bound to recognise, in a fitting way, the "invaluable" services rendered to it by the supporters of the Consent Bill, and the public have no right to grumble. Serve me and I will serve you. One is to be rewarded, we hear, with the Principalship of an educational Institution, and another with a Fellowship of the Calcutta University. It now remains to be seen what honors will be conferred on Pointed Caps and Motley Vests. It must have been a sore disappointment to some of them not to have seen their names prominently mentioned in the Viceroy's speech. "Put not your trust in Princes."

THE Factory Bill has passed into law.

THE Government of India has replied to the Congress memorial regarding the salt-tax. Mr. Finlay, Secretary to Government, writing to Mr. Pherozeshah Mehta, says:—"I am to say that as the financial statement for the year 1891-92 will very shortly be before the public, it would be improper for the Government of India, at this time, to enter into any description of its financial position. But as you seem to be under the impression that the circumstances which led to the enhancement of the salt-tax have practically ceased to exist, the Government of India desires at once to correct that impression." The announcement was by no means unexpected. The supporters of the salt resolution in the Congress, with an illusory steady exchange and so on, had made a mistake which will now be dispelled. The supporters of the memorable amendment took a rational and sensible view of the situation, and said that, however much reduction of duty was desirable, it was not practicable under the present circumstances. They were, therefore, anxious to save the good name of the Congress for sober and well-informed moderation, and urged that chimerical demands of all sorts should not be put forward without proper regard to practical politics. They were, however, hooted and hissed as defenders of an iniquitous taxation. They were nothing of the sort, and time shows that they were right in their apprehensions.

THE Entrance Examination results are out betimes this year, though in not quite a *pucca* form. The prospect of daily fines seems to have imparted energy and zeal to the Examiners, and a new method of sending round to the various schools *kacha* results of the candidates sent up by them respectively has been adopted. The School authorities are asked to approve of the draft as it were, and if there be a promising candidate whose "plucking" looks suspicious, the matter may be enquired into at once and remedied, if necessary. We shall be glad it this new departure will ensure fewer complaints. The questions in some of the papers were regarded as a little too stiff and unfair for Entrance students, and other questions were ridiculously unintelligible. Some "moderation" is necessary, we are told, which we are sure will be forthcoming.

THE Magistrate of Gya fined a muktear of his court 25 rupees, for "intentionally insulting" him. The grave offence happened to take the shape of the poor muktear chewing *pan* in the august presence. The High Court has issued a rule calling upon the Magistrate to "show cause."

THE Steamer *Utopia*, bound for New York, with seven hundred Italian emigrants on board, has foundered off Gibraltar, after collision with Her Majesty's ironclad *Rodney*. The boats of the Channel Squadron were lowered at once, and saved some lives; but it is feared many on board the ill-fated steamer have perished. It is believed that notwithstanding the exertions made by the boats of the Channel Squadron to save those on board the *Utopia*, upwards of two hundred have perished.

MR. MUIR-MACKENZIE will proceed on three months' leave about the middle of the next month. Mr. P. C. Lyon, Private Secretary to His Honor the Lieutenant-Governor, will act for him.

WHO LAYS DOWN THE LAW IN THE BENGAL COUNCIL—THE LEGAL REMEMBRANCER OR THE LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR? The question has arisen out of a recent noticeable incident. On Saturday week last the Hon'ble T. T. Allen initiated a discussion that is worthy of note. In moving that the Bill to amend the Public Demands Recovery Act 1880 be taken into consideration, he took exception to a decision of the Chief Justice in language quite out of place in the Council. The motive for the attack on the highest Court of the realm subsequently transpired from the speech of the Hon'ble Mr. Nolan. It appears that Mr. Allen (the member in charge of the Bill: remarkable coincidence) "had previously advised Revenue Officers, in his capacity as Legal Remembrancer, that the Act should be construed differently" to what the Hon'ble High Court later on decided; hence Mr. Allen's wrath. The mover said: "It had been not an unusual practice for judges both here and in England to carp and gird at the Legislature, and to attribute to defective drafting what was a cover for mere wilfulness. But such petty and carping criticisms the Legislature treated with the most perfect indifference, and stolidly (*sic*) pursued its way." One cannot sufficiently deprecate language such as this, coming from a Legal Remembrancer who happens also to have a seat in the Bengal Council. One shrewdly guesses that this same Legal Remembrancer must have had many of his own learned and accurate judgments as a District Officer set aside on appeal to these same, in his opinion, know-nothing Justices of the High Court. Fancy, "wilfulness" in the discharge of his duties being ascribed to the Chief Justice of the High Court, only because he happened to differ from the Legal Remembrancer's interpretation of an Act! On the other hand, we have the opinions of Dr. Rashbehari Ghosh and Mr. Nolan, both brother members in the Council to Mr. Allen, that the decision of the High Court was in accordance with the law as it stands, and that the Legal Remembrancer erred in his interpretation thereof. Moreover, as Dr. Ghosh aptly pointed out, the Bill is an *amending* one and not declaratory, implying thereby that the Legislature accepted the reading of the High Court as correct and was amending its own "defective drafting" and the "stolid" pursuit of its way. Mr. Allen went out of his way in dictating to the High Court Justices their duties. In this he made himself out to be quite unworthy of being a legislator. His advice to judicial officers is that they should act not according to the wording of any Act, but according to its spirit. If this be the principle on which he acted when dispensing justice in the mofussil, one can only pity the unfortunate parties who had their cases before him. The concluding threat of the Hon'ble Member contradicts one of his former statements, and for ludicrousness takes the cake from everything else. Forgetting that he had previously said that "the Legislature treated with the *most perfect indifference*" the "carping criticisms" of Judges, the Hon'ble Mover indulged in the following threat: "He was sure it very often happened that it was not the law which needed amending, but the somebody who administered it." Impotent rage could not go further. We are of opinion, however, that it would be sometimes better to remove certain makers of laws than the interpreters thereof. The Justices of the High Court do not hold their appointments at Mr. Allen's sweet will and peasure, and being neither Government Pleaders nor candidates for Government Pleaderships, they can very well afford to treat Mr. Allen's expressions of petty spite with the contempt such baseless strictures deserve. We exceedingly regret that the Hon'ble President did not call Mr. Allen to order as soon as he began to indulge in his malicious and baseless tirade against the Judges of the highest tribunal in the land.

Civil Service Commissioners in England have judiciously excluded Italian from the curriculum of the Indian examination. The Commissioners consider it is too easily learned and all sensible men consider it is utterly useless from Indo-political point of view.

THE Victoria Hall, of Hugly, a Jubilee memorial, has been completed and opened. It cost more than 10,000 rupees, and is a monument of the indefatigable and earnest energy of Babu Ishan Chander Mitter and his colleagues but for whom it could not have been built, inspite of promises of subscriptions. Besides a large hall for public purposes, the Municipal office will find accommodation in the buildings which are considered as handsome.

THE Bengal industries have received a new addition to their number, and in token, as it were, of the literary activity of the province, we have yet another paper mill. It has been set up at Ranigunge under excellent auspices.

OWING to the late hour at which the proceedings came to a close, we could not notice in our last issue the grand Mahapuja of the goddess Kali, held at Kalighat, on Sunday before last, in connection with the Consent Bill, now also seemingly ineffective though it has proved. It was meant to be no demonstration, yet it grew to be such in the course of the day. Although of quite an impromptu character, it proved a greater success, if possible, than the *miadan* demonstration. Even our detractors have not been able to attribute wire-pulling in connection with it, or find fault with the promoters for parading *ticca garries* in the streets with Portuguese trumpet-blowers on, or advertising Electric lighting or the presence of the Viceroy. The high Service for averting the national evil had simply to be announced, and people flocked to the temple in numbers unknown even in connection with the greatest of festivals. Rich and poor all mingled their humble prayers to the mighty goddess, in the devout hope that the heart of our rulers would be softened. The national feeling about the duty of the sovereign, and the essentially spiritual nature of Hindu loyalty, prompt our countrymen as the last step to appeal to the god of gods, the mother of the universe, the Supreme and Almighty power, to shed light on erring sovereignty, that the devout Hindu believes to be not much removed from divinity. We have heard this "childish display" condemned by some, who would find nothing wrong in a national thanksgiving, or one united prayer, offered for some particular object in all churches and tabernacles in the realm. We cannot do better than let our daily contemporaries speak as to what took place on this memorable occasion. The *Englishman* says:—

A demonstration of Hindus against the Age of Consent Bill took place at Kalighat yesterday 16th Feb. Two hundred pandits had been engaged for the occasion, and were to be observed preaching at different parts of the shrine of Kali, to propitiate whom the gathering had been summoned. On arrival each person was presented with a garland of flowers, and a strip of vermilion was pasted on his forehead, no exception being made either in creed or nationality. Native sweets and refreshments were distributed lavishly to all comers. Processions were formed at the junction of the Kansariparah and Russa Roads, and marched to Kalighat to the beating of drums and continuous cry of "Haribol" and "Save us from this interference with our religion," each procession being headed by men carrying banners, bearing various inscriptions. At the shrine innumerable goats were sacrificed to propitiate the goddess who was called upon to soften the hearts of the Governor-General and induce him to throw out the Bill. Some of the men had travelled from Calcutta on their hands and faces, and others had torn their chests, drawing blood, to induce the goddess to be kindly disposed towards their prayers. A song specially composed for the occasion by a Native poet was sung by the members of the Star Theatre and others. "Being very much aggrieved, Oh, Mother Kali! we have come to your door, frightened out of our wits we cry aloud Oh, Mother, Queen of the world! This Bill is a punishment without offence. Oh, Tarini! let not such a Bill be passed into law! Oh, Mother, pardon us, and let the Government know our feeling and thwart the actions of the reformers, who are nothing but hyprocrites." The police arrangements were excellent, and no accidents of any sort occurred. The crowd of visitors was greater in the afternoon than in the morning. About a lakh and-a-half are estimated to have visited the shrine in the courre of the day.

THE *Indian Mirror*, whom the scene must have sorely troubled as another hollow though gigantic unreality, has to admit its enthusiasm and earnestness. There is thus a concensus of opinion as to the *success* of the *Pujah* or the demonstration, if you will call it. The Anglo-Indian papers are struck dumb in the presence of this gigantic, unheard of and unexpected upheaval of the national feeling, and speak with bated breath. There is no more of that chaffe and badinage that marked the reporting of the *maidan* demonstration, and unveracious frivolity is silenced into awe and truth. A number of learned Pandits waited on the Hon'ble Sir Romesh Chander Mitter at his residence, to pronounce their and the nation's benediction upon him, for his great though unsuccessful efforts to serve the country, but he was too ill to receive them. Out of evil cometh the good. The Kalighat demonstration proves the possibility of restoring the wavering solidarity of our community. The agitation has effectually served to separate chaff from wheat, and we can distinguish enemies from friends, whatever garb the former may delight to masquerade in.

THE mercantile deputation in connection with the Small Cause Court reform was received by the Lieutenant-Governor on Tuesday last. The Hon'ble Mr. Mackay, who headed the deputation, gave many illustrations of long delays and postponements and handed a number of suggestions for reform, some of which are as follows:—

(*e*) That a special summary procedure should be framed for the Small Cause Court, instead of, as at present, portions only of the Civil Procedure Code being made applicable.

(*f*) That the pecuniary jurisdiction of the Court should be reduced to the limit of Rs. 1,000; and in order to enable this last suggestion to be immediately carried into effect, pending the material alterations and considerations required to establish a form of procedure suitable to the Small Cause Court, an Act should be passed to amend section 18 of Act XV of 1882; by substituting the word "one" for "two" in the second clause of that section and in section 22 of the same Act the words "one" for "two" and "one" for "three."

(*g*) That a decree should be obtainable in cases of simple claims for debt with as little delay and expense as possible.

(*h*) That a system should be introduced by means of which the Judges of the Court should be enabled to try all cases in their turn, and should dispose of them without harassing adjournments.

(*i*) That all undefended cases should be separated from defended cases, and that a separate board should be prepared of defended cases from which the daily list of each Judge should be supplied.

(*j*) That the practice at present in force of each Judge daily revising his board. *i.e.* going through the whole board to ascertain what cases are defended or undefended should be discontinued, as a great deal of time is in consequence unavoidably taken up.

(*k*) That in order to separate defended from undefended cases, provision should be made, which will enable a plaintiff and the Court to ascertain before the day fixed for hearing, that appearance has been entered, and that a defence is contemplated. In defended cases the grounds of defence should be stated before the day fixed for hearing.

(*l*) That to enforce the above suggestion, a defendant should be prohibited, unless specially permitted to do so by the Judge, from addressing the Court or in any way defending the case, when he has made default in entering appearance.

(*m*) That the summons should be in such a form, and the office arrangements of such a character, that a defendant can readily understand how and where he is to enter appearance and the result of his failing to do so.

(*n*) That undefended cases, including cases in which no appearance has been entered, should be dealt with by an Officer or Judge of the Court specially deputed for that purpose, so as not to interfere with the other business of the Court.

(*o*) That such Officer should, on being satisfied of the due service of the summons, be empowered in his discretion in cases of simple debt or liquidated damages to grant a decree for the amount claimed without requiring the personal attendance of the plaintiff and his witnesses, if any.

(*p*) That provision should be made to relieve the Court bailiffs from attending in Court all day, so as to enable suitors to avail themselves of their services without delay.

(*q*) That the present system of holding New Trials should be abolished, and that three, instead of two, Judges should sit together, the opinion of the majority to be binding, and not, as at present, where the opinion of the Senior Judge prevails.

(*r*) That applications for leave to sue under section 18 of the Act XV of 1882 may be made to and granted by the Registrar.

(*s*) That in all actions where the plaintiff seeks to recover a debt or liquidated demand in money payable by the defendant with or without interest, a procedure analogous to that laid down by *Order XIV Rule I*, under the Judicature Acts in England, may be introduced.

SOME of the suggestions, if carried out, would really tend to complicate the procedure; for example, the provision for entering appearance and filing of written statements. Documents as a rule cannot be *inspected* in Small Cause Court suits prior to the hearing, which is another fruitful source of delay. The most sensible suggestion, of course, is that about reduction of jurisdiction which will be sure to bring much relief. The prospect of *ad-valorem* duties, which brings in a large income, blinded Government, and the jurisdiction was raised from a thousand to two thousand rupees. It is notorious that undefended cases of large value in the High Court, take a much less time to dispose of, and cost less than similar suits in the Small Cause Court; and there is little reason why the old practice should not be reverted to, unless Government is unwilling to give up the large profits by sale of justice, that the enlarged jurisdiction of the Small Cause Court has been bringing in. In many of the bigger cases, Counsel and Attorneys are engaged, which make the proceedings in the Small Cause Court much more costly than they would be in the High Court, where the costs go by a prescribed scale, and Counsel and Attorneys cannot charge what they like. Section 38 of the Small Cause Court Act and Section 672 of the Civil Procedure Code, take many of these cases to the High Court, either on reference or for re-hearing, after all the remedies in the lower Court in the shape of new trial and so on, have been exhausted; which naturally and necessarily mean further costs and troubles to the suitor who has paid *ad valorem* stamp, Counsel and Attorney before, and has to make these payments over again in duplicate; for, in the High Court, where *ad valorem* stamp is otherwise unknown, you have to pay it on petty Small Cause Court suits on re-hearing, which brings Government double gain. In the more important cases, those for example valued at more than a thousand rupees, these necessary safe-guards cannot be dispensed with, and if the procedure is to be effectively simplified, the old jurisdiction of the High Court must be restored, and much of the congestion in the Small Cause Court will at once be removed and suitors will be gainers beyond doubt in money, time and efficiency.

THE *World* states authoritatively that Mr. Burt, M. P., has been offered and has accepted the place left vacant by the death of Mr. Bradlaugh as Member for India.

THE *Times*, in an article on the seizure of the British steamer *Countess of Carnarvon* by the Portuguese on the Limpopo river, says that it is an outrage for which Portugal must account. The Portuguese affirm that the steamer *Countess of Carnarvon*, and the boats seized at Beira, were importing arms and munitions, which is forbidden by the law. Lord Salisbury and Sir James Fergusson made statements in the houses to the effect that if the charge of importing arms was true, the Portuguese were entitled to seize the steamer as also the boats at Beira.

THE House of Lords has passed the bill enabling certain high officials in India to come "home" on special occasions without vacating their appointments.

THE Grand Dukes Alexis and Sergius arrived in Calcutta on Tuesday morning. They are now on a short visit to Darjiling, and leave Calcutta to morrow proceeding on a tour to Agra and Delhi. They sail from Bombay for China and Vladivostock.

THE Calcutta athletic sports will be held at the Dalhousie Square, on Saturday next, under the patronage of the Lieutenant-Governor. The events will be open to only native clubs, schools and Colleges, and without permission of the Committee no school, club or College will be allowed to send more than two members to com-

pete for each event, for which there will be two prizes. The entries close to-day. Lady Elliott has kindly promised to distribute the prizes. The following is the programme:—

1. Throwing the Cricket Ball (Maharaja Narendra Krishna Bahadur's prizes.)
2. High Jump (Rai Kedarnath Chatterjee Bahadur's prizes.)
3. 100 yards Flat (Babu Norendra Nath Sen's prizes.)
4. 120 yards Hurdle Race (Mr. Lee's prizes).
5. Steeplechase (Sir C. Elliott's prizes).
6. ½ mile Flat Race (Sir A. Croft's prizes.)
7. 150 yards Handicap Flat (Maharaja Sir Jotendra Mohun Tagore Bahadur's prizes.)
8. Tug-of-War (India Club's prizes.)

We are sorry to notice complaints of rowdyism on the part of some youngsters after termination of the Kalighat proceedings, on Sunday before last. We do not vouch for the truth of these complaints, as they appear in the correspondence columns of some of our daily contemporaries, who are nothing loath to make capital of such complaints. Hindu patience and forbearance should never give way to intolerance, however great the provocation may be. Youthful impatience, on the part of irresponsible stragglers under the heat of excitement, cannot, however, be connected with the general demonstration with fairness, about which we have universal testimony that it was as orderly as one could possibly conceive, though no less than two lacs of people met. Misdirected exuberance of feeling after the assembly dispersed, however much to be regretted it may be, cannot and should not be connected with or charged against any assembly.

THE *Statesman*, one of the most sensible supporters of the Bill, is obliged to write in the following strain:—

"The gathering which took place at Kalighat on Sunday, in connection with the Age of Consent Bill, if not perhaps in itself an event of very great importance, is significant as one among many indications of the extent and depth of the feeling against the measure. We have no desire, at the present stage, to add to the embarrassment of the position in which the Government finds itself placed. But there can be no doubt, that it has mainly itself to blame for this embarrassment; and it seems to be bent on doing everything in its power to increase its own difficulties. Not only has it from the first done nothing to conciliate, but, as if with deliberate purpose, it has done everything to irritate, public feeling in the matter. The abruptness with which it introduced the Bill, and the inconsiderate haste with which it has pressed it forward, are only equalled by the stolidity with which it has treated the opposition. If it was determined to proceed with its legislation in spite of the arguments of its opponents, regard for mere decency, if not for their feelings, might, one would have thought, have led it to make at least a show of listening to them with patience. Instead of this, it appears to have wilfully adopted an attitude of contemptuous indifference. The most ardent advocates of the principle of the proposed measure, can hardly deny the weight of many of the objections urged against its details in one or another of the hundreds of memorials that have poured in from all parts of the country. Yet the whole of these memorials have been dismissed by the Select Committee, with the almost insulting statement that it has read them. The impression produced is that the Government, having made up its mind to pass the Bill, has determined to save itself all trouble, by turning a deaf ear to everything that may be said on the other side. The latest rumour is, that it has under its serious consideration, the advisability of assuming the offensive against the opposition, by prosecuting one of the Native journals for certain of its utterances on the subject of the Bill. Whatever may be the legal merits of the case, which is said to have been referred to the Advocate-General for his opinion, we can scarcely bring ourselves to believe that, at a critical moment like the present, the Government would adopt a course which would not only fan the flame of opposition into a blaze, but alienate the sympathies of the great majority of its Native supporters.

In connection with what we wrote in our last issue regarding the apparent unanimity with which Anglo-Indians in this country had approved of the Bill, it is only just to add that, from information that has since reached us, we have reason to believe that this unanimity is far from being so complete as we had supposed. Of three Judges of the Calcutta High Court, who, we are given to understand, have pronounced against the Bill, one is an Englishman, and among the members of the Covenanted Civil Service, there is a strong minority who disapprove of the action of the Government.

But now *cui bono*?

Correspondence.

[FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.]

LONDON.

SIR W. W. HUNTER IN "THE *Times*" ON INDIAN AFFAIRS.

IT is satisfactory to know that in its treatment of Indian affairs, our powerful but often bitterly prejudiced *Times*, has the advantage of possessing the able and enlightened services of Sir W. W. Hunter. The series of articles on Indian affairs, which have appeared each week, are known to be by him; and their tone of fairness and sweet reasonableness, so often wanting in the lucubrations of the official classes, are internal evidences that the writer must be just such a man as their author is known to be; one, acquainted with the facts and broad minded and philosophical enough to draw correct inferences from them, however much they may offend old-established prejudices. But even Sir William is hardly so generous in writing for the *Times*, as he was in writing his late article in the "Contemporary Review" on "Popular movement in India," which you no doubt have seen. In the matter of the Feudatory Princes, and the extent to which the movement for the incorporation of their armies with the British army has gone, he does not in the *Times* state it so fully as in the "Review," and he makes more concession to official views. Speaking of the Age of Cosent Bill, he is of opinion, that the really important feature of the case is the light it throws on Public opinion as influenced by caste. His view is, that the differences of opinion have changed from the basis of caste to that of party; and this he says forms the supremely important disclosure made by the present discussions. From the British stand-point, the result of this is, that Government will become more difficult, but less dangerous, the more the conflicting parties can be heard. The annual Political Congress and the native press, with their widespread local organization for giving utterance to dissatisfaction or complaint, may sometimes ruffle the equanimity of our Indian officials; but the full light of even an unfriendly public opinion is safer than the secret working and unaccountable impulses of ignorance and superstition.

MAX MULLER'S EDITION OF THE RIG-VEDA.

Professor Max Muller, in his second edition of the Rig-Veda, takes occasion to remark on the less sympathetic spirit, with which his labours have been looked upon by the present Indian council than by the East India Company, who gave him its support during his twentyfour years of toil upon the first edition. The present work was undertaken with the aid, and at the expense, of the Maharajah of Vizianagram, for the purpose of incorporating the more complete materials which modern scholarship now has at its disposal. That this task should have been left to private liberality, without participation in it by the Government, is not at all to the credit of the latter.

The ninth Oriental Congress is after all to be held in London in September 1892 under the Presidentship of Profressor Max Muller—Lord Northbrook being one of the Vice-Presidents. It is expected to be the most numerous and influencial gathering of Orientalists, from all parts of the world, that has yet met.

THE DECISION IN THE TAJPORE MOSQUE CASE.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council has this week put an end to a litigation amongst the Mahommedans of Tajpore, which has been kept up since 1887. The question was whether Hafiz Mowla Buksh, who had been the Imam and Moazzin of the Mosque at that place for more than twenty years, could continue to hold that office, seeing that he had introduced a ritual into the prayers which was asserted to be contrary to Mahommedan law and rule: and whether also other parties, Mathwalis of the Mosque, had not by their adoption of these practices also forfeited their right to its control and management. The Judicial Committee has decided in their favour; thus reversing the decision of the High Court of Bengal and restoring that of the Additional Subordinate Judge of Tirhoot, Babu Nobin Chunder Ganguly.

The case strongly reminds an Englishman of certain famous ecclesiastical controversies in this country, where the points have been equally minute and difficult, and have seemed out of all proportion to the tremendous excitement, trouble, and expense involved in their settlement. Here parties in our established church are divided upon such matters as the washing of cups, making the sign of the cross or omitting it, wearing certain robes and so on. What was objected to in the Imam was that he had pronounced "Amen" aloud, and had performed the Rafadain, a ceremony which I suppose I need not describe. All the parties were Sunnis, but the Mosque had been built by those of the school of Abu Hanifa, who, it is said, prescribed the low "Amen" and the omission of the Rafadain. The inference sought from this was that the Imam and his fellow Mattwalis were not true followers of Hanifa, and were, therefore, disqualified from officiating and acting in their offices. The Judicial Committee has dissented from this view. To be an Amil-bil-Hadis, as the Imam was, is not it holds a disqualification on the ground either of the general express rule of Mahommedan law, or of the growth of customs separating different schools in so marked a way that the followers of one school could not properly worship with those of another. There has been no text or decision produced to show that a follower of Abu Hanifa did any wrong in performing ceremonies recommended by the other Sunni Imams, or thereby cut himself off from commission with Hanifa's other followers. The chapter of the Hedaya on prayer had not not been translated because Mr. Hamilton who had been employed upon it by Warren Hastings said it could afford no assistance in matters concerning property. On the question of usage the evidence led the Court to the same conclusions as enquiry into the express law had done.

ENGLISH COMMERCE DURING 1890.

From the returns of trade and finance which have begun to appear we are able to form a general estimate of the nature-extent and value of British commerce during the past year; and a few notes upon this subject may not be without interest. Generally speaking the year has been moderately prosperous in spite of the severe financial disturbances which, especially in one particular case that of the stoppage of Messrs. Barings threatened widespread disaster; and moreover the financial disturbances in America, which resulted from the failures whose cause was the Mckinley Trariff Act had an injurious reflex action upon English affairs.

On the whole our trade has continued to grow, although the volume of our foreign trade was somewhat less in 1890 than during the preceding year. The imports show a decrease of £6,709,000 but £50,00,000 of this is due to the lower prices for the imported produce; so that there is really only a very small decrease of about a third per cent. The exports exceeded those of 1889 by £14,608,000 but this was at higher prices and making the proper allowances. There is a decrease in quantity of about half per cent only. The falling off in imports is partly accounted for too by our own good harves which made us less dependant upon foreign good-t staffs; and our farmers have been better off than they have been for many years. Then there was an expansion of our home trade as shown by the returns of the chief industries, the railways and the clearing Houses of London and the chief towns. In this respect the latter half of the year shows a falling-off owing to the great strikes *i. e.* that the railway strikes in Scotland and in Wales.

Our working classes, of the regular and great industries, have had a year of prosperity which must not however be supposed to be inconsistent with a vast amount of deep proverty existing amongst large numbers of our lower classes. With this necessary deduction our workmen have enjoyed high wages, have had no lack of employment and the cost of living has been low. A good test is the consumption of such articles as tea, tobacco, beer, spirits upon which a considerable—unfortunately too large—portion of their income is spent. These show a large increase under every head except that of coffee. Nearly ten millions more pounds of tea have been consumed, four million barrels more beer, four million gallons more spirits, and four million pounds more of tobacco smoked. The statistics of pauperism may also be taken; and we find that there were in England and Wales at the close of 1889 the number of 713,247 persons in reciept of poor law relief and the proportion of paupers to total population being 2·46 per cent, while at the end of 1890 the number was only 695,821. On the other hand although there is as usual an absolute increase of some three millions sterling in the savings banks deposits, yet the increase relatively to 1889 is not so great; and this shows that the working classes have not been, in proportion, as thrifty as they have been prosperous.

AN OBJECT LESSON.

Teaching by means of pictures—coloured for preference—is a favourite method adopted by those who try to impress new ideas upon unaccustomed minds; upon children for example and rustic electors. The Home Rule campaign has been particularly prolific

in this class of object lessons as we call them; and each side has rivalled the other in reproducing scenes in vivid colours which would bring home more forcibly than mere words, the facts and events upon which it rested its case. It is something like this that I understand is to be done in the next issue of "India;" not actually pictures however, but seven or eight pages of coloured diagrams ingeniously contrived to represent to the eye the broad features of the social economic and political condition of India.

MR. DIGBY'S "OPEN LETTER" STATEMENTS.

Mr. Digby's offer to contribute an article to the next number of "Greater Britain" for the purpose of convincing the Editor and the readers of that paper that his "Open Letter," which I mentioned in my last, is not at all the exaggerated statement that gentleman would fain believe it to be, has been accepted. "Greater Britain" circulates largely amongst English people interested in colonial matters; an influential class of people whom it is very desirable to have correctly informed upon the facts treated of with such striking effect by Mr. Digby in his letter, and converted, if possible, from the conventional and fatal optimism of the ordinary Englishman concerning Indian matters.

INDIAN HYGIENE AND "DEMOGRAPHY."

In connection with the seventh International Congress of Hygiene and Demography—which latter big word I understand to mean a scientific treatment of the social and domestic life of the people—a special Indian Committee has been formed with the object of taking measures to forward the interests of the Conference in India. There are several members of the Secretary of State's Council upon it and other Anglo-Indian Officials. Mr. Samuel Digby, formerly of Bombay has been appointed the honorary secretary. The Congress is to meet in London from the 10th to the 17th of August—the dates fixed by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales, the President. Letters have been forwarded through the Foreign Office to the Ministers for Foreign Affairs in various countries requesting that delegates may be appointed; and there are to be delegates from the Universities and from all the leading scientific (including the medical) Societies of Great Britain; as well as from municipalities and County Councils. At the last meeting in Vienna over 2000 delegates were present. The scope of the Congress is very wide and includes sanitation in all its branches—both what may be called national and international sanitation; for in these days more than ever the condition of one nation affects that of every other. The industrial question is very important at present. There will be discussed the Regulation of Industrial occupations, length of hours of labour, the effect of different sorts of food upon the efficiency of labour: and so on. It is intended to obtain written communications from persons most competent in the various subjects, to print them in at least three languages and circulate them before the Congress meets. All this of course involves very considerable expense; The Committee is appealing to the public for subscriptions and £1100 has already been received.

APPOINTMENT OF A CAPITAL AND LABOUR (ROYAL) COMMISSION.

From a party point of view, as well as on the ground of the intrinsic importance of the subject, the announcement of the appointment of a Royal Commission to enquire into the relations of labour and capital, is the great event in politics just now. The Irish question is being fought out in Ireland, and is not attracting much attention in England. Consequently there are signs everywhere, in Factory Bills and otherwise, this Royal Commission being one of the most significant, of the social programme coming to the front. The evil of an unsettled Irish question to the English Morton of Great Britain lies in the hindrance it constitutes to domestic progress; and we can see why its urgency has ceased for a time, what harm we suffer with the preserve in all its fulness upon us. Instead of the spectacle of Government and opposition working to defeat each others objects we see the more unusal sight of their rivalry in the same pursuit. Each wants to be taken as the friend of the working classes above all. Whichever can succeed in creating this impression will carry the elections. The conservatives when they have suffered defeat as at Northampton have derived it to be on account of the Irish question, and have protested that capital and labour matters were the real factors in the situation. There is a considerable amount of truth in this; nor have the conservative party a bad record in regard to many important reforms in sanitation, and social improvements; as for example the recent great Local Government Act; and it is a Factory Act of the Government now before Parliament which is by all parties considered a well considered and effective measure for grappling with many of the evils which exist. But notwithstanding it is hardly to be believed that the Conservative Party will be successful in inspiring confidence in the working class e'ectorate. Their schemes have unfortunately always two much the air of Party and election moves; and the matters they take up are usually those they have long opposed, and have rarely been taken up spontaneously and for the love of them. In this matter of the Commission for instance there is a positively delightful suddenness about it considering that only a day or two ago Lord Randolph Churchill who is the "candid friend" of the Government was sweiing at them for their failure to grasp the possibilities of the political situation, and pointing out that a grand chance they were missing by not "dishing the Radicals" in the all important matters in which the working classes were interested. Hardly was the ink dry upon the newspapers when timely question put to ministers revealed the fact not only that a commission was to be appointed. but that in fact it had been intended to do so for a long time! Oh! artful Mr. Smith!

The very widest scope is to be given to it, for it is to include all branches of the industrial controversy under present conditions of capital and labour at any rate. There is no instruction to enquire into the merit of socialism for instance. It is said the Prince of Wales will be the Chairman; but Lord Derby and Sir John Gorst have both been mentioned. Mr. John Morley will be asked to sit upon it, and there will be representatives both of employers and of the Trades Unions. Mr. Michael Davitt is expected to be asked to sit as a special representative of Irish interests.

THE INDIAN SECTION OF THE SOCIETY OF ARTS.

The Indian Section of the Society of Arts met yesterday afternoon under the presidency of Sir Charles E. Bernard, K. C. S. I., to listen to a lecture by Mr. Robert Gordon, on economic development of Siam. Mr. Gordon has spent a great portion of his life in the East, having been 20 years an engineer in Burmah, and afterwards employed as adviser to the Siamese Government in reference to the construction of public works; and he is understood to have great sympathy with the Indo-Chinese native races. His account of the early history and the modern development of Siam was very interesting. He described the present reigning monarch as liberal and progressive in his ideas, and the country itself as an admirable field for commercial enterprise. He described the numerous proposals recently made for railways and other works, and showed how they would open up the country to and place it in easy communication with its powerful neighbours. He anticipated for it a prosperous future. A fair start, he said, is being made. There is a large amount of capital lying idle in the Kingdom. In the palace alone, it is officially declared, there is over two millions sterling ready for a single railway (the Korat Nungkwai), and the Government is guaranteeing 5 per cent interest on the capital required, all of which is to be exclusively Siamese. Other projects will be thrown open to the world; and Mr. Gordon thinks that the good faith, liberality and friendship hitherto shown by the Siamese Government afford grounds for the hope that if the opportunity is wisely and promptly embraced there will be profitable results to all parties concerned. The Siamese Imperial Ambassador was present at the lecture, and an effort was made to induce His Excellency to speak, but without result. In the discussion which followed special emphasis was given to the recommendation that whatever is done in the way of modern development in Siam there should be no undue interference with oriental views and customs. Sir Hugh Lowe, who has had a wide experience in the East enforced the desirability of treating the native Government with great consideration and even tenderness, with a view of ensuring their confidence and loyal support. Another speaker, Mr. Norman, considered that Great Britain is interested in the existence of a strong and independent Siam, and that if the Siamese can be convinced of that fact the relations between the two countries are likely to be of a satisfactory character.

DARLINGTON'S PAIN-CURER.—This famous and popular remedy has been found to cure pains of every description arising from whatever cause, on any part of the human fame. A certain cure for Pains in the Back, Lumbago, Pains in the Chest, Sore Throats, Coughs, Colds, Mumps, Tightness of the Chest, Bronchitis, Diptheria, Headache, Topthache, Neuralgia, Colic, Rheumatism; Paralisis, Pains in the Groins, Contracted Joints, Gout, Sciatica, Bad Legs, Bad Breasts, Swellings, Old Sores, Ulcers, Piles, Ringworm, Pimples, and Eruptions ton he Skin. Highly recommended by the Medical faculty. Thousands of Testimonials of its marvellous cures. Call for Darlington's Pain Curer and see you get it. Per bottle, Re. 1; large size, Re. 2; packing and postage As. 8. May be had from Messrs. Darlington & Co., at their establishment 49, Dhurrumtollah Street, Calcutta.

Extract.

REGARDING the success of the Mahapuja, the *Indian Daily News* says:—

FROM an early hour yesterday morning, (16th Feb.) there were signs of unusual activity at Kalighat. The opponents of the Age of Consent Bill had arranged to have a special day of prayer to the goddess, with the view of imploring her intercession against the passing of the proposed measure. The morning and a good portion of the day were spent in prayers to the goddess. The earliest arrivals at the shrine were a large number of pandits who had assembled together from various parts of Bengal, and there were a few also who came from distant Benares. The Bengali pandits included contingents from places such as Bhatpara, Navadip, Vickrampore, Furridpore, Harinavi, Rajpore, Badalpore, Kadalipara, and Calcutta. The religious part of the ceremony was held in the main building of the temple as well as in the *Natmandir*, the *Dolemandir*, in the passages, along the corridors, and in the verandahs surrounding the temple. During the course of the day, ome very valuable offerings were made to the goddess, consisting of gold and silver ornaments, pearls, Benares *sarees*, flowers, sweets, gram, &c. It is hardly necessary to say that during this time the usual daily services of the temple were being carried on. But an incident happened at the place where the goats are sacrificed, which is worthy of note. A devotee, evidently a strong opponent of the Bill, rushed up, and placing his head on the block, offered himself for sacrifice. Of course, the executioner withheld his hand, and eventually the man got up, saying that he was willing to shed his life's blood for the sake of his religion, but unfortunately the law would not permit it. As the day advanced the crowd increased, and preparations were made for the Sankirtan procession. There were a great many devotees assembled at the *Mahadeo* temple at Nocoolessur, which is a short distance away from Kali's shrine. This is a temple where the upcountry Brahmins conducted their devotions, and here, too, there was a large crowd assembled, and pandits chanted the Vedas.

By the evening, the crowd thickened considerably, large numbers arriving by tram cars, while private conveyances and *ticca* gharries crowded the road leading to the shrine. By 5 P. M., a very large crowd had assembled at the place, and *Sankirtan* parties passed to and fro in procession, singing hymns, &c.

THE *Statesman* says:—

EVER since the Report of the Select Committee on the Age of Concent Bill was made public, there has been considerable consternation among the orthodox members of the Hindu community, who, from the first, have opposed the measure strenuously. The uneasiness thus occasioned received emphasis when it was announced, that Sir John Gorst had stated from his place in Parliament, that the Government of India saw no reason to withdraw the Bill. It was then felt by the opponents of the measure that their last hope, *viz.* an appeal to the Secretary of State in Council, had vanised, and in their despair, they determined to find solace in the dictates of that religion which according to their reasoning, is about to receive so cruel a shock. "The unfeeling brevity," said an aged Brahmin to our reporter at the Kalighat meeting on Sunday, "with which the Select Committee disposed of our objections and announced their intention of passing the Bill without further inquiry or modification, came as a thunder-clap upon us, and when this was followed by Reuter's message, of Sir John Gorst's statement in Parliament, we were simply bewildered, and in our grief exclaimed, in the same manner as your *padres* lead you in Church every Sunday, men and women together in one voice:—'Let us pray; Mother Kali, have mercy upon us!' That, Sir, was the origin of the *mahapujah*. It welled forth spontaneously from every heart.

DR. de JONGH'S LIGHT-BROWN COD LIVER OIL.—ITS UNEQUAILED EFFICACY IN GENERAL DEBILITY AND EMACIATION.—In cases of Debility and Emaciation the powerful curative influence of Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil is graphically described by Sir Henry Marsh, Bart, M D, Physician in Ordinary to the Queen in Ireland, who, after extensive use, strongly recommended this preparation, and observed:— I have frequently prescribed Dr. de Jongh's Light Brown Cod Liver Oil. I consider it to be a very pure Oil, not likely to create disgust, and a therapeutic agent of great value." This eminent physician remarks:—"With strumous and emaciate subjects, and where the general health is impaired this remedy tells with peculiar efficacy. The reviving and remaining effects of a regular daily course of this animal Oil are highly satisfactory. Its favourable action on the system is renovating; it checks progressive emaciation, restores the yielding health, rebuilds, as it were, the tottering frame, and brings about a most remarkable and salutary change in all the vital functions." Dr. de Jongh's Light-Brown Cod Liver Oil is sold only in capsuled imperial half-pints, pints, and quarts, with his stamp and signature and the signature of his sole consignees on the capsule and the label under wrapper, by all chemists, druggists and storekeepers. Sole Consignees, Ansar, Harford and Co., 210, High Holborn Londn.

Whatever may be said of protest meetings, to-day's *pujah* ceremony is not the result of any wire-pulling."

That being the universal feeling, that is, among the orthodox members of the Hindu community, steps were instantly taken to give expression to it, and accordingly it was arranged to set apart a day for fasting and prayer. Sunday was selected as the most convenient; and while the women conducted their devotions by offering prayers to the titular deities at home, it was arranged that the men should perform their *puja* at the ancient shrine in Kalighat. The news having spread that the pandits had arrived and were about to commence the *puja*, there was soon a large crowd collected, and in a few minutes locomotion in the temple precincts, and especially in the temple courtyard, became almost impossible. The *pandits* seated themselves in different places, and were engaged in various acts of devotion. About 150 of them, seated in rows, were assembled together in the *natmandir*, or main building. Whilst the *pandits* were engaged in these acts of devotion, worshippers, among them scions of many of the richest families in Calcutta, and different parts of Bengal, kept coming in, and some of them made costly offerings, consisting of gold and silver ornaments and precious stones, besides money, flowers, and fruits, to the goddess. Later in the afternoon, Dr. Sequah and a few Europeans paid a visit to the shrine, and when leaving made money presents. Worshippers were to be seen every where, prostrating themselves before the goddess, and performing other acts of abasement. One enthusiast, overcome by his feelings, suddenly rushed through the crowd, and, placing his head on the sacrificial block, offered himself as a victim. It was pointed out to him that this could not be permitted, and he was reluctantly forced to withdraw. Another man cut himself in the chest, but he too eventually yielded to wiser counsels. The crowd which visited the shrine up to the hour of the final close of the ceremonies (8 P.M.) was estimated at close upon two lakhs, and is unprecedented in the annals of Calcutta gatherings. As the evening advanced, the crowd commenced to grow thicker, and every tram-car brought its fresh load of devotees; while the more respectable classes drove up in their private conveyances and *ticca gharries*, rendering locomotion along the Haldarpara-road suffocating. Some dozen men had imposed upon themselves the task of crawling all the way to the temple by measuring their length on the ground, and as these approached their destination shouts of "*Mai Kali!*" rent the air. The best thing one could do under the circumstances was to take his stand in the verandah of one of the buildings and watch the proceedings from there. One by one the *sankirtan* parties, singing hymns of invocation to Kali, filed past on their way to the temple. Our reporter counted some thirty of these religious bodies before he left at 6 P. M., but some forty more followed up afterwards. The school boy, so prominent a numerical factor in ordinary public meetings, was generally 'conspicuous by his absence.' The parties were mostly composed of grown men, bare-footed and bare-headed, and with a few exceptions seemed to be earnest. During the time that preparations were being made for the *sankirtan* processions, the temple was literally beseiged by crowds of women, who, taking up their position in every space of vacant ground in and about the temple, watched the proceedings with the deepest concern. Parties found their way to the temple, where the ceremony consisted in going round the edifice, singing their different hymns. Later on, a special *homa* was performed by several leaders of orthodox Hindu society. The gathering was by no means confined to Bengalees, but there were numbers of Sikhs, Marwarris, Mahrattas, and Punjabis present. The greatest enthusiasm prevailed throughout the proceedings; and although there was a strong body of police on duty, their aid was at no time required to maintain order. Photographs were taken of the *natmandir*, the *pandits* at their devotions, and of the *sankirtan* parties, by Messrs. Johnstone and Hoffman and Bourne and Shepherd.

MEMORY. LOISETTE'S System. A Cambridge University Lecturer (Dr. R. N. Ingle) was (Jan. 1890) "much impressed with the possibilities of improvement to memory which the LOISETTE Lessons open up." derived great benefit from your lessons, though at first prejudiced against them by the misrepresentations of Mr. Appleby."—Dr. Geo. Herschell, Physician to the West End Hospital for Diseases of the Nervous System, London. "In three weeks I was able to memorise the names, etc., of 400 men."—Major Jamieson Bengal C. S. "Having seen the base attempt to robyou, I send, unsolicited, the statement that your system is of great advantage to strong memory incalenable aid to weak one."—Rev. Dr. J. M. Buckly. Excellent travelling companion."—Capt. J. B. Haye R. N. Wonderful aid to memory."—Mirza Saderud-din Khan. "Invaluable."—J. J. Francis, Q. C. "Does not involve much labour,"—*Statesman*, 23rd Oct. 1887. "Tremendously popular in Oxford."—*Pall Mall Gazette*, 4th February. 1890. Prospectus Free. One Pupil. Rs. 76; Ten pupils, Rs. 19 each Apply to F. Fisk-Williams, 71, Elliot Road, Calcutta or to A. LOISETTE, 37, New Oxford Street, London, England.

WE have to acknowledge with thanks the following books and pamphlets:

Review of the Trade of India in 1889-90.
Report, East India (Civil Servants.)
Fourth Annual Report on the Working of the Income Tax Act II of 1886.
Report on the Legal affairs of the Bengal Government for the year 1889-90.
A note on the present system of Inland Emigration.
Accounts of the External Land Trade of British India for April and May 1890.
Accounts of the External Land Trade of British India for April 1890.
Trade and Navigation Accounts of British India, for July 1890.
General Report on Public Instruction in Assam, for 1889-90.
First annual Report of the Hindu Theological School. Madras 1889.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.

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DOCTOR'S PEESCRIPTINS.—Pains in the stomach, their treatment. Statistics show that 80 out of every 100 human beings suffer from the stomach, and as these maladies, with very rare exceptions, occasion bad temper and spleen, the sufferers are a source of annoyance to their families and freinds. It is rendering a veritable service to those attacked by dulness, pituites, risings, cramps in the stomach, etc., etc., to draw their attention to the following:—The Parisian Academy of Medicine after numerous experiments has approved and highly recommended the use of Doctor Belloc's Chnrcoal for maladies of the stomach. See that you get Dr. Belloc's Charcoal Pastieiles or Powder, as since Dr. Belloc invented mecinal Charcoal, many inferior imitations have been pressed upon the public.

Government Notification.

Calcutta Gazette.—*March* 18, 1891

GENERAL.—Babu Jadu Nath Bose, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cutwa, Burdwan, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Nagendra Nath Gupta Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Cutwa, Burdwan, is appointed to have charge of that Sub-Division, during the absence, on leave, of Babu Jadu Nath Bose, or until further orders.

Mr L J K rshaw, Assistant Magistrate and Collector, Dacca, is transfefrred to the Sudder station of the District of Mymensingh.

Mr R Carstairs, Deputy Commissioner, is allowed furlough for one day, under article 340 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the furlough granted to him under the order of the 1st December, 1890.

Mr Carstairs is posted to the Sonthal Pergunnahs, and is appointed to act, until further orders, in the second grade of Deputy Commissioners.

Mr. W R. Bright, Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, is appointed to act until further orders, in the first grade of Joint-Magistrates and Deputy Collectors, and is posted to the Sudder station of the District of Bhaugulpore.

Babu Shama Pado Chowdhry, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Julpaigari, is allowed leave for three months, under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Babu Atal Behari Maitra, Deputy Magistrate and Deputy Collector, on leave, is posted to the Sudder station of the District of Julpaiguri.

Kumar Gopendra Krishna, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Sealdah, 24-Pergunnahs, is vested with the powers of a Collector under Act X of 1870 in that District.

Babu Probhat Chunder Mukerji is appointed temporarily to be a Sub-Deputy Collector of the fourth grade, and is posted to the Lalbagh Sub-Division of the Murshidabad District.

Mr Ahsanudin Ahmad, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Manbhum, is allowed leave for sixteen days under article 291 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 20th instant.

Mr E Geake, Officiating Joint-Magistrate and Deputy Collector, Ranigunge, Burdwan, is transferred to Nuddea, and is appointed to have charge of the Meherpore Sub-Division of that District.

Jails.—Mr. E. W. Payne, Superintendent of the Central Jail, Dacca, is allowed furlough for seven months, under article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations, with effect from the 1st April 1891, or such subsequent date as he may avail himself of it.

Mr. H. Mostyn Owen, Superintendent of the Darjeeling Jail, is appointed to act as Superintendent of the Dacca Centra, Jail, during the absence, on furlough, of Mr. E. W. Payne or until further orders

Education.—The furlough for one year, granted to Mr. J. T. Bartlett, Teacher of Drawing, Engineering College, Shibpore under the orders of this Government, dated the 27th February 1890, has been commuted by Her Majesty's Secretary of State for India to leave, on medical certificate, for fifteen months.

Zoological.—Mr. J. D. Maxwell is appointed to be member of the Committee of Management of the Zoological Gardens, Alipore.

Medical.—Surgeon-Major J. M. Zorab, Officiating Civil Surgeon of Cuttack, is confirmed in that appointment.

REVENUE DEPARTMENT,—OPIUM.

Mr. L L. Parrott, Assistant Sub-Deputy opium Agent, Benares Agency, is granted furlough for one year, with effect from the 8th March, 1891, under article 371 of the Civil Service Regulations.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

The undermentioned gentlemen are appointed to be Honorary Magistrates of the Independent Bench at the Sudder station of the District of Bhaugulpore, and are vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class:—

Syed Mobarak Ali, and Babu Hukum Chand Singh.

Mirza Mahomed Hadi Khan is appointed to be an Honorary Magistrate of the Independent Bench at Mozafferpore in the District of Mozafferpore, and is vested with the powers of a Magistrate of the third class.

Grant of leave to Munsiffs.—Babu Durga Churn Ghose, Munsiff of Chandpore in the District of Tipperah, is allowed leave for fifteen days, *viz.*, ten days under article 309 of the Civil Service Regulations and the remaining period under article 306 (*b*) of the same Regulations, with effect from the 1st March, 1891, or from the date on which he is relieved.

Babu Nirmal Chunder Singh, Additional Munsiff of Chandpore, in the District of Tipperah, is allowed leave for twenty-one days, under article 372-1 of the Civil Service Regulations, in extension of the leave granted to him on the 11th February, 1891.

Babu Jagendra Lal Chowdhry, Munsiff of Cuttack is allowed leave for three months, *viz*, eighteen days underarticle 309 of the Civil Service Regulations and the remaining period under article 306 (*b*) of the same Regulations with effect from the date on which he may be relieved.

Advertisements.

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CALCUTTA, *14th March, 1891.* M. RUSTOMJEE, *Managing Director.*

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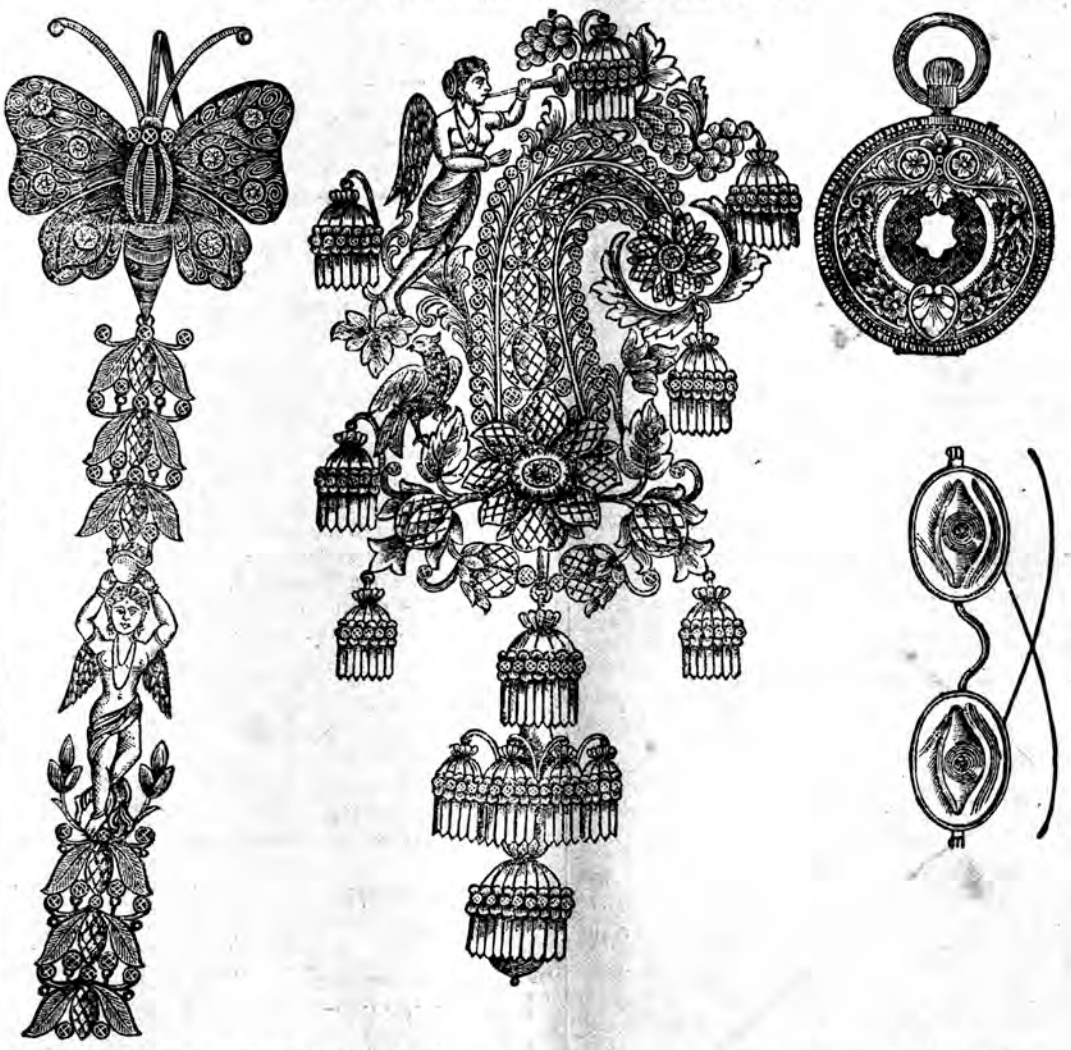

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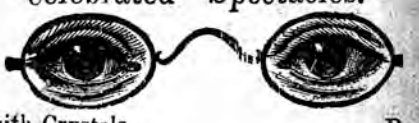

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